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### COMMAND GUIDANCE

### **Dumping Congressional Gun Grabbers**

by Alex McColl

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The 8 November 1994 mid-term election was as memorable as any the country has seen. For the first time in 40 years, the Republicans have taken control of both houses of Congress. And for the first time since before the Civil War, an incumbent speaker of the House was thrown out.

This last fact in particular gives us a warm fuzzy because SOF and Publisher Robert K. Brown, along with the NRA and Law En-

Law-abiding, tax-paying gun owners of this country ... have come of age elected authority. The blessas a political constituency.

forcement Alliance of America (LEAA), put in a lot of effort and were on the ground in Washington state right up to election day, lobbying against Tom Foley.

"What ifs" are always speculative, but the election in Foley's district was so close that we can fairly say, had it not been for the participation of the NRA and the LEAA, the result would have been otherwise.

Of course, gun rights was not the only issue in this election, in Washington state or across the country. But it was a major issue. The passage of the Brady Bill and the anti-gun provisions of the Crime (Hug-A-Thug) Bill galvanized gunrights activists from the grass roots all the way up to the highest levels of the NRA into action, and they put on an all-out, full-court press in this election, with visibly satisfactory results. The list of congressional gun grabbers who got dumped is impressive.

Even more important, the lawabiding, tax-paying gun owners of this country, 80 million of them. have come of age as a political constituency. The accepted political wisdom can no longer dismiss the supporters of the NRA and the gun lobby as primitive rednecks whose rights can be airily ignored.

The election results show that orderly electoral democracy works, and that there is no need and no justification for armed resistance to legally ings of liberty, civility, legality and order far outweigh the inconveniences and hardships

of putting up with whatever Clinton has in store for us in what remains of his tenure in the White House. Only when the tyranny gets to the point of suppressing the right to criticize the holders of power, or seriously interferes with the electoral process, is there any justification for an appeal to arms. A civil war is a dreadfully destructive tragedy. Ask the people of Bosnia, Sudan, Cambodia or Lebanon.

As the election results show, neither of these has yet happened, nor, as a matter of practical reality, are they likely to happen between now and November 1996.

But now is the time to look toward 1996, and to start working by all fair and legal means to insure that the formidably crafty and slick politician in the White House is not reelected. It can be done, it must be done, and it shall be done. X

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# SOF

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Photo: Fernando Garcia/AP/Wide World

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In the last campaign of
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the infamous Sniper
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Photo: Richard Lucas



### DEATH IN THE JUNGLE

Diary of a Navy SEAL

by Gary R. Smith and Alan Maki

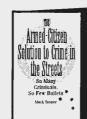
The Rung Sat Special Zone. It was a massive mangrove swamp located on the northeastern edge of the Mekong Delta, a maze of canals, twisted vines and mud – and it was swarming with Vietcong and NVA troops. To the Vietnamese it was known as "The Forest of Assassins," and during the Vietnam War, the U.S. Navy SEALs were the most feared predators in the Zone. **Death in the** Jungle is the combat diary of Navy SEAL Gary R. Smith. During his 32 months in Vietnam, Smith engaged in 257 combat missions. Here he recounts what it was like to sit silently for hours on an ambush site in the RSSZ, initiating sudden, violent firepower against unwary enemy soldiers who floated their sampans through the SEAL kill zone. It is a realistic, unapologetic look at the men, the weapons and the tactics of the unconventional war fought by Smith and his fellow SEALs in Vietnam. Includes 16 pages of neverbefore-published photos. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, hardcover, photos, 352 pp. \$29.95





#### HOME WORKSHOP PROTOTYPE FIREARMS How to Design, Build, and Sell Your Own Small Arms by Bill Holmes

Master gun maker Bill Holmes shares what will and won't work in designing and building rifles and shotguns from raw materials. Includes the fine points of creating everything from actions to sights, as well as tips on tools. materials, assembly, finishing and more. For academic study only. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, photos, illus., 192 pp.



#### ARMED CITIZEN SOLUTION TO CRIME IN THE STREETS So Many Criminals, So Few Bullets

by Mack Tanner Crime can only be stopped in America if we take responsibility for our own safety Arming and organizing volunteers into selfdefense alliances has proven to be the most effective way of halting crime and making neighborhoods safe places to live, work and raise kids. Find out how groups all over America have done this. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 200 pp. \$12.00



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### STREET GANGS The Law Enforcement Guide to Today's Urban Violence

This manual, which arose from the ashes of the L.A. riots, is the most comprehensive study ever done on street gangs. It examines gang sociology; describes the different types of gangs, including hispanic, black, white, and Asian; and outlines the Sheriff's Department's official quidelines for responding to street gang activity. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover, 80 pp. \$14.00



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Considering a career in the rapidly expanding field of bodyguarding? You'll want to view this footage of the professionals putting close-quarter battle skills to the test. Mark Yates, one of the world's top executive close-protection operatives, shares his 12 years of experience developing the skills and techniques required to remove the VIP from a lethal confrontation. Color, approx. 40 min., VHS only. \$29.95



### THE LONG-RANGE WAR Sniping in Vietnam by Peter R. Senich

This is the most complete report ever on the U.S. military's unprecedented use of snipers and sniping equipment in Vietnam. Highlighted are the fielding of the XM21 sniper rifle and the Adjustable Ranging Telescope, plus the application of sound sup-pression devices and special carbines so typical of the unconventional warfare in SE Asia. 8 1/2 x 11, hardcover, photos, illus., \$39.95



#### **GET EVEN** The Complete Book of Dirty Tricks by George Hayduke

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#### RED CELL

Secret SEAL "Terrorist" Operations
Here is the controversial story of the U.S. Navy's top-secret SEAL commando unit tasked with testing security at U.S. and NATO bases worldwide. Now for the first time you can see the shocking footage taken by Red Cell during its raids, showing stunning evidence of security lapses that allowed them to breach fences and gates, plant bombs and take Americans hostage. Color, approx. 55 min., VHS only. \$59.95



### THE STONER MACHINE GUN

A Navy SEAL Remembers
The legendary Stoner machine gun was the favorite heavy-firepower weapon of SEAL Teams in Vietnam. This action-packed video features Stoners being fired full auto to demonstrate their awesome power, plenty of completely new footage of SEALs in combat in Vietnam and a detailed analysis of the Stoner's combat capabilities by a SEAL who used the weapon extensively in SE Asia. Color, approx. 30 min., VHS only.



### POLICE RIFLES

Selecting the Right Rifle for Street Patrol and Special Tactical Situations by Richard Fairburn

Here is a complete guide to selecting and using the right patrol, military or aniper rifle for everyday and special law-enforcement situations. Fairburn analyzes the strengths of candidate weapons and their calibers. He also provides field tricks and proven drills that will maximize the officer's and rifle's performance. 8 1/2 x 11, softcover photos, illus., 248 pp. \$30.00



#### WILDERNESS WAYFINDING How to Survive in the Wilderness As You Travel

by Bob Newman

The first truly complete easy-to-follow guide to finding your way in the forest, mountains, desert or any wild environment. Let a pro teach you about maps and compasses, land navigation, building emergency shelter, find-ing food and water, forecasting weather, administering first aid and much more. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, photos, illus., 160 pp. \$15.00



#### JUST SAY NO TO DRUG TESTS How to Beat the Whiz Quiz

by Ed Carson

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### BULLETIN BOARD

### PARACHUTE MEDICAL RESCUE SERVICE JUMPS TO RRI

Parachute Medical

Rescue Service (PMRS) was founded in 1975 by Soldier Of Fortune Editor/ Publisher Robert K. Brown, Dr. John Peters, and others to provide emergency medical and other disaster-relief services to remote and inaccessible areas of the Third World. In the early years PMRS conducted several successful disaster-relief missions. notably in Guatemala in 1975 and the Dominican Republic in 1979.

More recently, however, the demand for PMRS's somewhat specialized services has significantly diminished. Not that there have been fewer natural disasters worldwide, but the governments of the affected countries are becoming better able to provide these services with their own in-country resources. Hence, we have had to deal with the guestion of whether there is still a need for PMRS.

In 1982, basically the same people (Brown, Peters, Tom Reisinger and others) founded Refugee Relief International (RRI), a Colorado corporation and tax-exempt relief organization, to provide medical and other help to refugees and other war victims worldwide. RRI has conducted refugee relief and medical missions in El Salvador, Honduras, Afghanistan and elsewhere, most recently in support of the Karen refugees in western Thailand. RRI has also sent donated medical supplies to Azerbaijan, Bosnia, Nicaragua, Rwanda and elsewhere.

Given the significant

to redistribute. If you have supplies to donate (anything not requiring refrigeration or lock-up), please contact RRI; phone: 303-449-3750.

— Col. Alex McColl

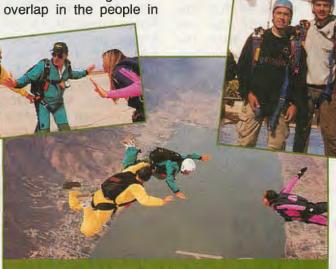
are appealing their dismissals to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

A spokesperson for the pair said they are prepared to file federal lawsuits if necessary to clear their names, and that a legal

> fund has been established for that purpose. We regret we do not have the address to pass along.

### WACO COM-MEMORATIVE STAMPS SELL OUT

A talented artist in Manhattan has been creating her own fake postage stamps for the past two years, featuring such American icons as Abbie Hoffman, Tonya Harding and James Brown. Sold through an East Village bookstore, the best sellers among these free-lance philatelics have been in commemoration of the Branch Davidian massacre, the Los Angeles riots and the World Trade Center bombing.



SOF Associate Publisher Lefty Wilson (above left, center) gets his moves down pat with Jim Wallace and Gail Sims of the Wallace Skydiving School (phone: 800-795-DIVE) in Lake Elsinore, California, and then does an accelerated freefall over the Southern California desert. Photo: Kevin Rohnke Executive Editor Tom Slizewski (above right, on right) suits up for his first jump at the Israeli Sky Club, north of Caesarea, as part of an Israeli commando course (watch for article in April SOF).

these organizations, and the similarity of functions, it seemed the obvious plan to transfer the functions and assets of PMRS to RRI. The disaster-relief mission of PMRS will hereafter be performed by RRI, and RRI will be strengthened by the addition of human and material resources from PMRS.

Victims of war and natural disaster will be the ultimate beneficiaries, RRI is in constant need of medical and relief supplies

### WACO ATF **AGENTS SACKED**

Charles Sarabyn and Phillip Chojnacki, the ATF agents who led the ill-conceived and ill-fated raid on the Branch Davidian church/home complex near Waco, Texas, have been fired after spending a year on paid administrative leave. A Treasury Department report blamed the two for not calling off the raid after losing the element of surprise. Sarabyn and Chojnacki

### HONKED-OFF IN HAITI

U.S. troops leaving Haiti via commercial airlines serving Port-au-Prince International Airport (PPIA) better have a few extra bucks in their BDUs. because Jean Bertrand Aristide's ungrateful government is giving them a financial enema on the way out of the country.

"Can you believe this?" said Coast Guard Petty Officer First Class Rod Roslak of Key West, Florida, a member of a five-man strike team that usually travels commercial instead of space-available military.

Put down that Soldier Of Fortune and put your hands up." SWAT team in a library? Where else but the University of California at Berserkeley. UC Berkeley now joins its colleagues at Ohio State University, the University of Illinois and UC Davis who have decided that keeping a university safe is serious business and Photo: Gamma/Liaison

Roslak and his team not only had to fork over \$25 (U.S.) to an immigration officer for an exit visa from Haiti, but also had to shell out an additional \$55 surcharge for a prepaid government ticket

on American Flight 1292 to Miami. Oh, plus another \$30: The Haitians behind the counter said, "That's for handling your reservation."

Several U.S. Army troops were honked-off at the Haitians. So were some homeward bound Marines, "Can you imagine the nerve of that little bastard?" said one trooper from the 10th Mountain Division who added, "Even the Somalis didn't pull this kind of shit.'

"We saved his [Aristide's] ass, and this is how he says 'thanks,'"

said another trooper. JBA doesn't need a calculator to know that with around 20,000 U.S. troops in "his" country, he could rake in a cool \$2 million if all of them passed through the turnstiles at PPIA.

- Dale B. Cooper

### **GOOD MEN SPREAD** TOO THIN

Here's a perspective of the unhealthy trend to stretch American defenses to the breaking point, with relative strengths under Reagan, Bush and Clinton: - Navy ships: 546, 430, 300; Army divisions: 18, 12, 10; Tactical Fighter Wings: 24, 15, 13; Troops (millions): 2.18, 1.81, 1.47; Troops with NATO (thousands): 390, 314, 70; Procurement (billions): \$155, \$120, \$70. Clinton's plan will retire/ disband one ship, one battalion, and 37 aircraft every month.

As a result, Army combat units have only 60% (or less) of necessary infantry, with entire platoons being zeroed out even in the 82nd Airborne. Of the 24 Marine rifle battalions. 12 have been overseas for more than six months of the last year; of 30 Marine chopper squadrons, 12 have been overseas for more than six months of the past year: some 72% of the Cobras on the East Coast are deployed overseas.

Prior to Haiti, the 1st Infantry Division was more than 2,000 troops under strength and could not deploy: One infantry battalion was fighting forest fires in Idaho, the cav battalion was on the Mexican border doing drug interdiction, the MP battalion was at Guantanamo, much of the medical battalion was

Continued on page 15

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# World Famous Street-Fighter Will Give You A FREE GUN...

# Just To Prove He Can Take It Away From You Bare-Handed As Easy As Candy From A Baby!

By Dr. R. L. Horine, Director, TRS - Civilian Fighting Division

Dear Friend,

I want to send you a free gun. (It is identical in CAD-imaged specs to the standard military-issue "Red style" training gun.)

There are 2 things I want you to do when you receive it:

- 1. I want you to set the gun aside, and watch the four videos I will also send.
- 2. Then, I want you to give the gun to the toughest, biggest and most coordinated friend you have... and ask him to:

### Point The Gun At You And Squeeze The Trigger!

It is important that you choose someone who is larger than you. Preferably, he should also have some skill at fighting. A black belt karate master would be perfect.

Why am I asking you to do this? Because, I want to prove to you that what you see on these video tapes will allow you to instantly take that gun away (barehanded) and put him down on the ground before he can move a muscle to squeeze the trigger! And once down, you will be able to keep him on the floor (and even slap him silly, if you please). You'll be in complete control.

As you will see in these tapes, you do not need strength, or special agility, or even previous skill in fighting. You will see how even a small man (5' 5", 140 pounds soaking wet) can easily disarm and take down a bodybuilder (6' 2", 240 pounds) trained in judo!

It's an astonishing fact to learn, but it is true nevertheless. What you are about to learn are the identical "Disarm and Disable" tactics used by elite U.S. military personnel, big city SWAT teams, and high-profile security enforcement...

### Which Have Been Kept Secret From Civilians (Like You) For Almost 20 Years!

Now, let me tell you about this gun. It is a detailed and exact replica of the "Red style" guns used by the military for training. It was designed by an American craftsman (who is now working with the military) and is hand casted, so that *all the tolerances are identical*. It has the feel, heft and balance of an authentic high-powered automatic pistol, yet is crafted from special solid polymers so it can be used for real-life training.

This gun would fool an expert who picked it up blindfolded — only the solid bore and the color (white) give it away as a training weapon. (The color is used for two reasons: To avoid misunderstandings with people who do not realize it is a training gun, and to keep you from accidentally picking up a real gun to practice with.)

There is one important alteration to this training gun. The trigger guard has been strategically changed so it will not snap the finger off your training partner, as a normal trigger guard would. (Your big, tough friend wouldn't like that... though he couldn't do much about it until you shared your tapes with him.) This alteration allows you to train without "pulling punches", and speeds up your learning curve dramatically.

Now, don't get the idea the "moves" you are about to learn are difficult, just because they have been held in secret by some of the most feared fighters in the world. The moves are simple and natural... yet utterly devastating when used against an armed



"I seldom give endorsements, but this is something special. The release of these tapes are unparalleled — you can learn a lot... it may save your life."

**Colonel Robert K. Brown**, USAR (Ret.) Founder and publisher of Soldier of Fortune Magazine.

attacker. You will be able to quickly take away your assailant's gun, and you will also learn:

- \* How to "jockey" for your best firststrike position during an attack!
- \* How to instantly "classify" any gun (single action vs. double action)... and how to tell if a gun is in "Condition One" military jargon for "ready to fire"! (This "inside" weapon knowledge could give you a

TACTICAL RESPONSE SOLUTIONS



precious extra second in any confrontation... enough to choose your best next move!)

- \* The most important (and toughest) decision you must make in any armed confrontation... and how to make it intelligently and morally (so you never have to second-guess yourself later!)
- \* Why the *incorrect* disarming techniques will actually force your attacker to fire... whether he's decided to or not!
- \* Why a man with a gun standing just 2 feet away from you is at a disadvantage... and how to use simple "leverage" to make him regret it forever!
- \* Why the correct way to "clear" a weapon increases your chances of not getting shot (first rule of bare-handed gun fighting) by 60%!
- \* Why the fancy-schmancy spinning head-kick techniques most martial artists learn are hopelessly inadequate in surviving a real street-fight! (And the "false confidence" you get will cause you desperate trouble!)

What's more, you'll also learn how to disarm an attacker who has a knife... along with:

- \* How to tell when your attacker is just "bluffing" with a knife... and when he's about to commit to stabbing you! (Crucial knowledge for making your best fight-ending move!)
- \* The single most important decision you must come to terms with in a knife fight!
- \* How to protect your most vulnerable "targets" during a knife fight... and how to use these rapid-blood loss areas against your assailant to end the fight instantly!

Plus, you'll learn the tactics of taking away a club or baseball bat from an attacker... and also:

\* How to tell where the "sweet spot" of a club or baton is... where all the damaging power is located! (And how to avoid it!) \* Where the "safety" area of the club is: the 20% of any swing where the power of the club is wasted (and where your opportunity to *end the fight* lies)!

And, once you've disarmed your attacker and are facing him bare-handed... well, that's just child's play now. These tapes will show you:

- \* How to use the secret of your body's natural "fulcrums" to bring anyone to their knees... using only 12 pounds of pressure and a tiny "torque" of your wrist! (Once you understand the secret, even a fighter twice your size can be dropped in a blink... with no more exertion on your part than you'd use to open a tin can!)
- \* The one "dojo" karate trick to never use in the real world! (It's a silly, dumb thing to do... and yet it's one of the *first* things you learn as a rookie martial artist!)

- How to master the strongest grip you're capable of — no matter how "weak" you think you are!
- \* How to use simple "cat-like" tricks to force your body to fall correctly... so even if you get pushed down onto a concrete sidewalk, you'll bounce right back up without a bruise! (Plus how to use your body's natural "cushions" to absorb almost any shock... and avoid the common bone-breaks most people suffer when knocked down!)
- \* The devastating secrets of *joint* manipulation (the lazy man's method of effective fighting)!
- \* The 4 crucial moves you must make when being "held up" from behind! (Or being forced to kneel from behind... one of the more common assault techniques used by desperate criminals and hostage takers!)



8 March 1994

This is an unsolicited endorsement:

Violence is on the upswing in America. Therefore it is important that both men and women possess the ability to defend themselves. The expert self defense instruction provided by Bob Taylor and Randy Warner, permits anyone to build a simple self defense strategy. The techniques presented in the tapes apply to the military, law enforcement, and all walks of the civilian community. The secret is practice and safety as stressed in the tapes.

Robert C. Kingston
General, USA Retired

TRS

TACTICAL RESPONSE SOLUTIONS

10 SOLDIER OF FORTUNE FEBRUARY 95

PLUS — and this is my favorite part of the package — you get an entire video of street-fighting "Dirty Tricks"... the same sneaky moves used by professional soldiers and cops who can't afford to waste time fighting by the old "rules of the street". You'll learn:

- \* The 2 psychological responses all top warriors "surrender" to the instant a fight is at hand... that increases their chance of survival and victory by 400%!
- \* How to quickly "cancel out" any size or weight advantages your opponent has!
- \* How to judge for yourself the "Escalation of Force" rule for any encounter! (So you are instantly in control of the fight, even if you've been totally surprised!)
- \* The secrets of "Single Finger" takedowns... using moves that are indefensible even by a larger and more experienced opponent!
- \* How to use "pain enhancement" tech to convince your assailant to stay down until the cops arrive!
- \* How just 6 pounds of pressure on a nerve can set you free from almost any hold!
- \* How to break away from strong-arm choke holds!
- \* The natural "guides" on your attacker's body that automatically guarantee a correct strike!
- \* How to avoid the devastating mistakes even black belts make when attempting head butts! (And how to use the professional tricks of performing head butts perfectly one of the surest ways of bringing an opponent "down" without further action!)
- \* The amazing "filthy cat fight" trick that even urban street fighters never learn... which will allow you to control anyone who isn't bald!
- \* The 12 take-down tricks that are never taught in karate "schools"!

- \* How to avoid the horrible mistake most fighters make with groin kicks!
- \* "Short Cut" kicks you can learn and use immediately... no matter how uncoordinated or clumsy you are!
- \* How to negate (with simple paincontrol moves) the common "harassment" attacks — bear hugs, full nelsons, and head locks — that are used against women!
- \* Simple controlling moves that force your attacker to decide if he wants to come away with a broken arm or give up! (And how to keep him down without serious damage until the cops arrive!)
- \* How rookie fighters "telegraph" their moves... and not to do it yourself (and use your knowledge to gain advantages over your dumber attackers)!
- \* How to reverse the worst fighting position you could ever find yourself in!
- Your 5 best "first strikes" to end any fight instantly — a split second before it begins!
- \* The sneaky ways professional fighters use the element of surprise to turn around dangerous situations... even when they're the ones who've been "jumped" by an assailant unexpectedly!
- \* The simplest way to gain a "technical" advantage when you appear to be overmatched!

And more. A *lot* more, in fact. For example, you'll get simple exercises to specifically strengthen what's weak in your "falling muscles". (The identical conditioning exercises used by professionals!) You'll learn how to train into *mastery* without breaking your partner's bones. These moves look simple (almost too simple)... but their devastating power becomes evident the first time your partner goes a fraction of an inch too far. (Don't worry, though — there are easy ways to make your practice sessions "fail safe"!)

You'll understand "Shotgun and Uzi"



"...the research contained in this series of tapes is worth the price. Whatever the price of these tapes the total knowledge contained is worth ten times as much. I cannot say enough about this series, except that you should buy them and find out for yourself. Believe me, you won't be disappointed."

John "Dynamite" Donovan, U.S.A.R. Major-Special Forces, Demolition editor for Soldier of Fortune magazine, and 30 year practicing martial artist.

disarming techniques (many traveling Americans have found themselves in megaarmed terrorist situations overseas and here in the U.S.!)... How only 4-6 pounds of pressure can snap a shinbone... Why no professional would ever attempt the "spinning round house kicks" that are taught to every new karate student (and which take 2-5 years to learn correctly!)... How to "adjust" his attitude without doing obvious harm... A detailed "map" of anatomical targets (for example: where the thumb ends at the thigh is a crucial nerve point — reaction: numbing shock when kicked)... And, the most decisive move you can make to end any fight instantly!

As you can see, the secrets revealed in these amazing video tapes will give you a powerful new way of moving in the world, because...

1-800-899-8153



### You Will Never Again Walk Your Streets In Fear!

Are you having trouble believing all this? That's okay — I'm used to people being suspicious... at first. But the truth is, what you are about to learn is praised by professional soldiers, and law enforcement personnel all over the country.

I have included a sheet of "testimonials" with this letter from U.S. military generals, big-city police veterans and even the publisher of *Soldier of Fortune* magazine (who almost never gives endorsements). They *all* agree that this new system can be learned quickly and easily, and will work on the street under even the worst conditions imaginable.

Here is how we came to discover these "professional warrior" bare-handed fighting secrets: For a long time now, I have been connected to the "inside" of certain elite military and law enforcement circles. (Including the Navy SEALS — the most dangerous soldiers on the planet.) My goal is to help civilians like you to understand the super-effective fighting skills that have been developed. I want my family to feel as safe and protected as possible, and I'm sure you want the same for your loved ones.

Anyway, through certain inside "contacts" (which I am not going to tell you about) I was approached by two of the most respected professional combat trainers in the world: Randy Wanner is a feared martial arts expert who for years has been training federal and state law enforcement agencies in "street survival fighting tactics". (He was also the former Martial Arts editor for Soldier of Fortune magazine.) His name is well-known among the elite "warriors" of modern-day combat, and he has gone toe-to-toe with street fighters from all over the world to prove his techniques are superior to anything else out there.

Bob Taylor (who spent 2 tours in Viet Nam with the 101st Airborne, MACV-SERT, and the famous 75th Rangers) is considered one of the country's most experienced experts in counter insurgency operations; state, local and federal law enforcement agencies use him frequently for training. He is also a specialist in counterterrorism for African, South American and Central American governments.

These two guys are in demand all over

the world. Their clients include the U.S. military, big-city SWAT teams, international anti-terrorist squads and top security firms in 15 foreign countries. These clients hire Bob and Randy for just one thing:

# Their Incredible Skill In *Quickly*Teaching Their Unique "Bare-Handed" Disarming and Disabling Techniques For Armed Attackers!

This new fighting system took over 20 years to develop. It was necessary because the techniques the police and the military used to use—based on centuries-old karate moves—simply were not effective in real combat conditions. Soldiers and officers who were supposed to be disarming their attackers were, instead, getting shot and disabled themselves!



"In my 50 years of military combat experience no one has done the hands-on research of being unarmed against a live weapon... until now! Study and master this tape. It will either save your life or save you years of imprisonment — as POW."

Maj. General John K. Singlaub, USA (Ret.) General Singlaub's career was chronicled in his autobiography, *Hazardous Duty*, published by Summit Books.

Randy and Bob decided to find out what was wrong. There was only one sane way to do this. They used their connections within the military establishment to get "training" bullets for their weapons. These bullets (called "Red Jets") are almost impossible for civilians to get. They are made of wax and polymer, yet are calibrated to fire from real weapons and can blow a hole in quarter-inch plywood from 15 feet. These training bullets were necessary for Bob and Randy's research, because...

### They Used This Live Ammunition On Each Other To Develop Their New Disarming System!

Let me tell you — it takes some kind of guts to face a gun loaded with live ammo. Those wax bullets travel at over 400 feet per second... and even if they don't tear up your body like real bullets, these guys have the scars to prove getting hit with them isn't pretty. (I personally saw Bob shred Randy's left earlobe during a demonstration of the "wrong" way to clear a gun! There was blood everywhere during the rest of the demo.) No one else in the world has ever done this kind of live-weapon research!

The first thing they found out, of course, was that 99% of the disarming tactics being used by soldiers and cops (and still being taught by smug karate masters who have never had to face a loaded gun in person) DO NOT WORK!

This has to stop. It's irresponsible. It's stupid — especially when Randy and Bob have, after 20 years of tough research, come up with simple and easy-to-learn ways that do work!

Their discoveries have revolutionized the way modern professional warriors approach armed attackers — already, there are cops who are on record saying these new skills have saved their lives in the street!

Why do you — as a civilian — need these skills? Are you kidding? The whole world has gone psycho. The odds that you will be faced by an armed attacker — without a weapon of your own to rely on — are getting worse every day. This kind of advanced knowledge (even if it is easy to learn) isn't a luxury for American men anymore. The facts are staggering:

\* M.I.T. (the famous university) did a study uncovering the fact that 5 of every 6 twelve-year-old kids are going to be the victim of a violent crime in their lives! That's almost everybody, sooner or later! (Most kids — and most adults, too — simply do not have a clue how to defend themselves in a tight spot. When you show a lack of confidence in yourself, you become the most attractive target for criminals there is!)

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TACTICAL RESPONSE SOLUTIONS

- \* Jean O'Neil (of the National Crime Prevention Council) says that victims who are forced into an attacker's car rarely walk away alive! (Yet most people cannot mount even a feeble defense against someone forcing them through the door!)
- \* And every kind of horrible crime is becoming more and more common you are no longer safe in your home, in your car, in a restaurant, or on the street surrounded by other people! (Jerks with nothing to lose are now senselessly shooting their robbery victims even after they've gotten everything of value.)

attacker intent on harm. You saw what police "stun guns" did to Rodney King on that famous video: Nothing. Most rape-prevention seminars ignore the most common aspect of rape: The woman is thrown to the ground first, and then attacked. She will seldom get an opportunity to try the fancy knee-to-the-groin trick the seminars teach — a move which, by the way, is usually taught completely wrong! (You may think a "ball kick" is easy, but it's actually a low-percentage kick, and hard to pull off. There are several better and more devastating things to do, as Bob and Randy will soon show you.)

Even the fancy alarms and sirens people are "arming" themselves with are worthless

"For a long time now, I have been connected to the "inside" of certain elite military and law enforcement circles. (Including the Navy SEALS — the most dangerous soldiers on the planet.) My goal is to help civilians like you to understand the supereffective fighting skills that have been developed. I want my family to feel as safe and protected as possible, and I'm sure you want the same for your loved ones."

What's more, new studies show that women who fight back are less likely to be raped. And that learning some form of self-defense is your best bet against a criminal population who is prepared to use force and violence on a whim.

But there's a BIG problem here. The way most Americans are going about getting prepared to defend themselves is simply...

### **Not Going To Work!**

Here are the facts, my friend: Most martial art studios are run by people who have never been in a real fight before in their lives... and you will probably be trained (in a huge class) by people who have been prematurely promoted to "black belt" just to handle the classes! These "store front" studios operate exactly like health spas — they lure in large numbers of people, and get the money up front. It's a business.

And the garbage being sold to women offers only the pale illusion of self-defense: Tear gas will not work on a drug-crazed

in most cases of attack. (They don't protect cars, they don't protect houses, and they won't "protect" you either.)

In reality, you have only two choices: Remain a vulnerable "potential victim" who trusts that God will protect you... or learn the RIGHT way to defend yourself.

It's not hard to do. In fact, it's relatively simple...

### Once You Understand The "Inside" Secrets!

One of Bob's favorite hobbies is to attend the big conventions of gun enthusiasts. He will challenge 20 of them to line up with their favorite weapon (unloaded, of course) and, one by one, demonstrate how he could take the gun away from them before they could pull the trigger. And then he would do it, bop, bop, bop, all the way down the line, never using the same move twice, never breaking a sweat, and never using any but the most *simple* skills.

Sounds like something you might want to learn for yourself, doesn't it?

Well, there's a "hitch". You see, the only way to even get any personal training from Bob or Randy was to get into their heavilymonitored seminars. But to get in, you need 2 forms of official credentials and licenses (plus about \$850 for the full board of instruction). Only professionals — elite soldiers, police SWAT teams, high-profile security agents — have been allowed to learn this life-saving stuff...

### **Until Now!**

Why now? Because, after about a year of intense negotiation, we convinced Bob and Randy to go into a video studio and — taking as long as they needed — produce the first video package ever of their most trustworthy techniques for facing an armed attacker bare-handed.

And they did just that. After weeks of filming and editing, they created the only package in existence for people (like you) outside the world of professional warriors. Yet they pulled no punches in presenting their new fighting system! What you get here is all their best techniques, best advice, and best training methods!

Here's what you get in this amazing, just-released video package:

- \* Three full-length videos (almost 5 solid hours) teaching you all the advanced combat techniques for instantly disarming and disabling (bare-handed) any assailant coming at you with a gun, club or knife (the most common weapons you'll see on American streets)!
- \* Included is the famous "Dirty Tricks" video of Bob and Randy's favorite moves really sneaky ways to manipulate and "put down" any attacker before he knows what happened... and keep him down until help arrives or you decide an "alternative" course of action! Even trained street fighters twice your size will go down fast and stay down with these astonishing fighting secrets!
- \* Plus, you get your specially-made "replica" gun... yours FREE just for ordering the video tapes.

The techniques you will discover on these tapes are the *identical* ones taught to

1-800-899-8153



elite soldiers, SWAT team cops and highsecurity personnel...

### With One Important Difference!

In these videos, you get the incredible advantage of seeing everything via 3 separate cameras (mounted stage left, right, and overhead)... so you get multi-angles and slow-motion repetitions of each and every move! This means you get an increased understanding... and you'll follow a faster "learning curve" than even the professionals get during a seminar!

This is no Hollywood B.S.... these are real techniques used by cops and soldiers! And make no mistake — this stuff should only be used when you are faced with what the professionals call "Condition Red": The point where you have absolutely decided that your assailant has already made the choice to harm you.. and you must act to save your life!

That's what this tape package is all about. You, ultimately, have to take responsibility for yourself, and for your actions. We can't do that for you. Neither can we guarantee that what you learn here will make you invulnerable to harm — that would be a stupid claim, and you would be a fool to believe it. No, what you have here is an OPTION. You are giving yourself one more (powerful) choice in this crazed, dangerous world — the choice to not be a vulnerable victim who has no idea what to do... even though you know that

certain harm is imminent!

I don't rob people. I don't like to hurt anyone, and I don't like to see other people get hurt. It sickens me that the criminal element has taken over our streets, and is invading homes with impunity. That sucks—and I, for one, am damned glad to have tools like these to take back my little piece of the world.

And I believe you feel the same way.

That's why I've written this to you today. I want you to see these tapes for yourself. Right now.

Here's the deal: All you need to do is call my office at **1-800-899-8153** and ask for **Department 37–G** (that's a toll-free call and won't cost you a cent) and tell the person who answers that you want the "Fighting Chance" video package... along with your free replica gun. Have your credit card ready. Or, if you prefer to pay by check or money order, simply fill out the "Priority Order Form" below and mail it with your payment to:

### TACTICAL RESPONSE SOLUTIONS 2945 S. MOONEY BLVD. DEPT. 37-G VISALIA, CA 93277

The cost of this incredible package is just \$97 — that includes everything (including shipping and handling charges)... and you have a...

### Full 3 Month Risk-Free Money-Back Guarantee!

If you aren't satisfied with this package

— for any reason at all — just send it back and I will rush your refund back by return mail. I trust your judgment here. I wouldn't be writing to you otherwise.

And, you get to KEEP the gun, even if you decide to return the videos! Consider it a gift, just for giving these astonishing tapes a "trial run".

But you do need to hurry! Even though we have many allies in the military and law enforcement "brotherhood" who support our attempts to "de-victimize" civilians, you should know there are many others who are scared to death with the idea of giving these secrets away. We have already been "stopped" by the U.S. Navy for offering another product... and the truth is, there are no guarantees this product won't be "stopped" also.

If that happens, you won't be able to get this information at any cost, anywhere. So, you see, it's very important that you order now, while you have this letter in your hands... and don't risk having these tapes withheld from you!

Sincerely,

Dr. R.L. Horine Director, TRS

For The Fastest Service Use Your Credit Card And Call Toll-FREE 1-800-899-8153 (Ask For Department 37-G) Priority Order Form For SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Readers Only! YES! I'm ready to take responsibility for my own self-defense in this increasingly-dangerous world! Please rush me the "Fighting Chance" video package... including my FREE training gun! I understand I have a complete 100% Money Back Guarantee: If I'm not satisfied for any reason, all I need to do is send the tapes back and you'll mail my refund back by return mail. And I get to KEEP the training gun, just for giving this astonishing package a "trial run". By initialing this line, I am stating that I am over 18 years of age and that I have never been convicted of a felony. I also state that I will use the information contained in this video package in a defensive situation only. I accept sole responsibility for my actions as an adult. I prefer to pay by credit card. Please charge my: Enclosed is my check or money order (payable to TRS), for \$97. Please rush my "Fighting Chance" video package to: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express Discover Name: Card #: \_ Expires:\_ Address:. Signature \_ City: \_ Tactical Response Solutions • 2945 S. Mooney Blvd. Dept. 37-G • Visalia, CA 93277

CA & VA residents add appropriate sales tax. Rush shipping available for additional charges of \$10 for "2-Day" shipping and \$15 for "Overnight" shipping.

#### Continued from page 8

in Suriname setting up a refugee camp, and various other troops were on detached duty in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Honduras and Ukraine. And Slick thinks with this we can still fight two wars on two fronts? He doesn't have a clue.

### BULLETS, BALLOTS, BLOCKHEADS

News from Washington includes the housecleaning voters gave the Democrats, and the Colorado man who told various persons he was going to go shoot the president. He proceeded to buy a rifle — in violation of both the 1934 and 1968 federal gun laws [he was a convicted felon] went to Washington and attempted to do just that. Fortunately, the president was not home and damage was limited to some glass and wood-putty repair work for the National Park Service.

Just on the odd chance there may be another blockhead out there who thinks there will ever, under any circumstances, be a rationale for shooting the president — or any other person who is not immediately threatening one's life - we'd like to point out the obvious: If you want to remove a politician in this country, we have a wonderful, workable weapon called the ballot box. It's wonderful because it works, and if you don't think it works iust look at the last election, where scores were taken out without a shot fired. And if you don't like the system, look out: There's a pile of us who just might shoot back to defend the system, whether we happen to

particularly like your target or not.

As an aside to this story, local Boulder, Colorado, gun dealer Bob Glass of Paladin Arms chanced to share an airliner with his senator, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, shortly after the passage of last August's crime bill - and took the occasion to get into a spirited discussion with his senator that made the papers. Another local gun dealer wrote Campbell's office in support of Glass' position and received a reply that ended, "I have no regrets for standing up to a person who apparently believes it is appropriate for 'law abiding' citizens to possess assault weapons, such as the fine upstanding citizen who recently shot up the White House with his favorite assault weapon. I'm proud to have voted for the crime bill and the assault weapons ban contained in it." We disagree as spiritedly as Mr. Glass as to the overall merits of the crime bill, but appreciate the senator's candor.

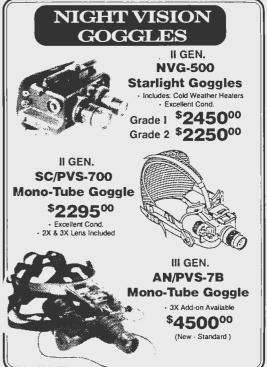
Meanwhile, U.S. Attorney Eric Holder said some people knew of Francisco Duran's intentions before he drove to Washington but did nothing to stop him. Holder said, "Certain people did have information, did have contact with Mr. Duran" and had "a basis to believe he was going to do what exactly did occur." Holder said those people neglected their "civic and moral duty" by not alerting authorities. Really? A man identifying himself as Francisco Duran called the office of Sen. Campbell in August and said he planned to travel to Washington "and take someone out." 🔀

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### UNITED STATES

Air Force determines that excessive cuts in AWACS crews—resulting in a lack of training and an increase in deployments—were a major factor in the accidental shoot down of U.S. helicopters by U.S. fighters over Iraq.

Navy Lieutenant Kara Hultgreen, one of the first female combat pilots, is killed while attempting to land her F-14 on the aircraft carrier *Abraham Lincoln* during training off the California coast.

Army combat units have only 60% of required infantry. Entire platoons have been "zeroed out" in elite 82nd Airborne. Two Marine F-18 pilots drop out of "Top Gun" training because their squadron lacks funds to pay for the five week course. Joint Chiefs Chairman Shalikashvili reveals that three Army divisions have fallen below a combat-ready status.

2

#### RUSSIA

Chechen President Dudayev's Moscow-backed opposition launches a long-awaited attack on Grozny but is quickly defeated. Troops loyal to Dudayev seize Urus-Martan, headquarters of the pro-Moscow faction, but are forced to retreat a day later.

Experts speculate Russian military numbers 4.8 million, more than twice the official total of 2.3 million. Additional 2.5 million are in police, security and border guard units. Defense Minister Grechev insists that 2.3 million is an accurate number.

Reports continue to surface that Russian scientists have perfected the use of "red mercury" to produce fusion bombs without the need of a fission explosion; the material also reportedly boosts the yield of existing fission bombs.

14

### 7

### COLOMBIA

Government forces capture second mini-sub in a year. Built locally, the sub carries three crewmen, radar, radios, has a three-hour range and can carry a three-ton payload of cocaine. Government begins program to pay farmers not to grow coca or marijuana.

6

### **CAMBODIA**

As government troops continue offensive on Vine Mountain, Khmer Rouge steps up attacks near Angkor Wat, destroying railroad bridges in Battambang and executing ethnic Vietnamese. Many KR guerrillas defect as siege continues and bodies of three Western hostages are finally found. Australian commandos had considered a rescue mission but lacked adequate intelligence.

-

### 12

### TURKEY

Thousands of elite airmobile troops deploy into rugged Manzur Mountains of Tunceli province to trap "Fingerless Zeki," aka Semdin Sakik, a charismatic PKK guerrilla leader, but are unable to bring him to battle.

Seven hundred trucks are reportedly crossing Turkish-Iraqi border every day. Turkey claims they are only carrying humanitarian supplies and not violating U.N. sanctions.

10

#### BOSNIA

Bosnian Croat troops join Muslims in successful assault on Kupres, taking the strategically located town in hand-to-hand fighting. Muslim offensive continues, capturing 60 square kilometers around Nisic, 30km north of Sarajevo.

11

#### YEMEN

"Ali Nasser Group," seven combat brigades of Southerners who lost during the internal struggle in 1986 and fled to North Yemen, fights on the Northern side in the 1994 civil war, and may hold the key to Yemen's future if they return south and assume political power.

### IRAN

Defense industry develops new helicopter gunship by converting Bell-206A JetRanger. New airframe is much narrower, putting pilot and gunner in tandem, and has a six-barrel gun and two rocket pods.

Defense officials plan to turn down a third *Kilo*-class Russian submarine because the first two have been disappointing. Hot weather degrades battery performance, forcing them to look to India for advanced hot-weather battery technology.

4

### IRAQ

Growing number of Iraqi army deserters gather in Iraqi Kurdistan to flee new Draconian punishments, claiming 1,700 mutilations — amputated ears and hands — in past three months.

Iran fired four Scud missiles at guerrilla base inside Iraq, causing major damage.

5

### **SRI LANKA**

Tamil suicide bomber assassinates ousted UNP party leader Gamini Dissanayake who had led the war against LTTE. At least 50 people are killed and 300 wounded by the Tamil woman. Government cancels peace talks and declares an islandwide curfew, but elections go forward.

2

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#### PERU

Shining Path guerrillas dynamite six electrical towers, plunging Lima into a power blackout. Shining Path leader from eastern jungle offers to surrender after government offensive drives the rebels out of their base and liberates hundreds of enslaved Ashaninka Indians. 9

#### HAITI

Aristide fires 565 local sheriffs because of their repression and announces he will not run for reelection or seek to extend his term.

About 90 prisoners escape from National Penitentiary, apparently with complicity of the guards. It is later revealed that these are the last of "about 400" prisoners to escape since Aristide's return.

16

11

5

### CANADA

Government refuses to provide land for a memorial to Canadians who served in the U.S. military in Vietnam. The memorial had been donated by U.S. veterans in a move similar to a Canadian donation of a memorial to Americans who enlisted in the Canadian military during World War II.

13

### SOUTH AFRICA

About 4,500 former ANC guerrillas who had been recruited into the army go AWOL to cash their paychecks. Recruits had conducted a mass walkout earlier protesting living conditions.

13

#### ANGOLA

Government forces continue their offensives across the country, capturing main oil center at Soyo, taking UNITA headquarters at Huambo and bombing Caala, though a government MiG fighter is shot down during the fighting. After government successes, both sides sign truce intended to end the 19-year civil war.

16

### SUDAN

Neur tribal militia attacks SPLA-held village of Akot, loots Oxfam aid warehouse and kills more than 100, wounds 150. World Slittep is excerpted from the biweekly newsletter For Your Eyes Only: An Open Intelligence Summary of Curtent Military Affairs. Published by Tiger Publications, P.O. Box 8759, Amarillo, Texas, 79114-8759; subscriptions are \$65 per year (26 issues). Sample issue available for \$3. Those Interested in reliable, up-to-date world intel are encouraged to subscribe.

### FULL AUTO

### **Combat Night Lights**

### Text & Photos by Peter G. Kokalis

o accessory you can add to your handgun, shotgun or submachine gun is more important than a flashlight specifically designed for use with fighting firearms. Flashlights attached to a shoulderfired weapon or used in conjunction with a handgun should be powerful very powerful. Goblins like to move at night, and not necessarily when the moon is full.

Lights of this type are most definitely not aiming devices: They do not replace the weapon's sights. These lights are used to illuminate the target and permit proper target discrimination, to prevent popping a family member or fellow officer. They backlight the weapon's sights and permit their proper use. If powerful enough, they can also be used to momentarily blind your opponent. Self-luminous tritium sights do not assist target discrimination in total darkness.

Common sense is required in the tactical application of flashlights. They should be turned on only long enough to identify a potential target fire, if required — then turn the light off and move. In the presence of potential danger, these devices should never be used as searchlights to visually clear an area. They will only serve to compromise the mission and draw fire if used indiscriminately.

The most meaningful measure of the power of a flashlight for comparison purposes is the total amount of light it produces, which includes both the focused and wide-angle portions of the beam. This is measured by an instrument called an "integrating sphere" and given in "lumens." This is a much better mea-

surement for comparison purposes than "candle-power" because, as commonly used, candlepower is merely a measurement of the intensity of the hottest spot in the beam. This can be misleadingly high for flashlights having either larger reflectors or irregularly focused beams with "hot spots."

Unfortunately, some manufacturers use one unit of measurement and others another, so their

Ltd. (Dept. SOF, 18300 Mount Baldy Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708; phone: 800-353-1334 -to purchase products or locate the closest dealer/ distributor in your area). Since their introduction in 1987, they have come to dominate the field of combat flashlights much as Heckler & Koch's MP5 dominates the submachine gun arena in law enforcement and special operations circles. The



New Sure-Fire Model 6Z CombatLight permits the unit to be used like a "syringe" and puts the support hand back in more or less the standard Weaver position.

Sure-Fire flashlights can be permanently mounted on a significant number of shoulder-fired combat weapons, including (top to bottom) the Benelli M1 Super 90 Slug Gun, Remington Model 870 shotguns and the H&K MP5 submachine gun (shown here with the A17 offset adapter to accommodate a sound suppressor).

products cannot be compared. In the absence of sophisticated laboratory equipment, you can get a fairly good idea of their relative brightness by going into a dark room and alternately turning each flashlight on while you look at the reflected light on the opposite wall. You can definitely tell which flashlight is more powerful this way.

### **Combat Flashlight**

However, you can also just simply purchase any Sure-Fire unit manufactured by Laser Products Sure-Fire "system" now includes more than 150 individual modular components. Most of these components are the different housings and mounts that are necessary to accommodate all the weapons to which Sure-Fire lights can be attached. We have room only to describe a few.

The most popular models, by far, with law enforcement personnel are the hand-held 6P series, which clearly demonstrate that lighting dynamite can come in small packages. There are three flashlights

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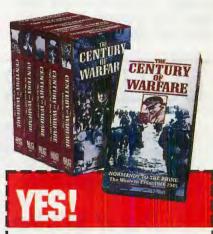
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Mail to: TIME-LIFE VIDEO, P.O. Box 85571, Richmond, VA 23285-557. in this series — the 6P, 6Px and 9P — and all feature high-pressure xenon lamps. Each will operate for an hour or more on a set of lithium batteries (two for the 6P and 6Px and three for the 9P). The 9P is 1.35 inches longer than the 6P but delivers a remarkable 105 lumens. The 6Px will work equally well with both lithium and rechargeable NiCad batteries. You get about 50 lumens with NiCads and more than 60 lumens out of the lithium batteries. Remember, most of us use NiCad batteries for training and fresh lithium batteries - with their almost indefinite shelf life for the street.

The switch used on these flashlights is quite simple. Push on the neoprene diaphragm in the middle of the tail cap, and the light comes on. Stop pushing and the light goes off. Rotate the tail cap until it's tight and the light stays on. Unscrew it a bit and the light goes off. With a handgun, these units are usually employed using the so-called "Harries Flashlight Technique." The problem is that this technique requires the support

hand to control the light without providing the customary isometric pull associated with the standard Weaver position.

The new Sure-Fire Model 6Z CombatLight was designed by John Matthews, president of Laser Products and a Gunsite family member, to overcome this objection. The Model 6Z has a smaller diameter body just in back of the head and two neoprene rings around the rear of this portion of the body that, in conjunction with the neoprene diaphragm in the tail cap, permit the unit to be used like a "syringe" with the "Rodgers Sure-Fire Technique" that puts the support hand back in more or less the standard Weaver position.

Infrared, amber and red filters with tip-off covers are also available for Sure-Fire flashlights. I personally keep a red filter attached to my 6P as the red beam does not adversely affect night vision, yet usually provides enough illumination for most shooting scenarios. There is also a Beamshaper cap that takes the focused portion of the beam and spreads it out in a

smooth and symmetrical manner.

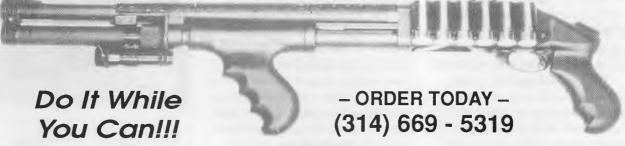
Two new Sure-Fire flashlights bear mentioning. The new Model 8X features a xenon-halogen lamp with an output of 110 lumens in an envelope measuring only 6.9 inches in overall length, with a body diameter of little more than an inch and weighing only 9.7 ounces, including the battery. Its 50-minute NiCad battery can be charged in less than 12 hours by removing it and dropping it in the charger's cradle. This unit is not much bigger than the 6R, yet has more than twice the light output and a longer run time.

### **Better And Brighter**

Even more impressive, in my opinion, is the 9N flashlight, which uses the same potent B90 NiCad battery as the 8X but has an ultrapowerful, tightly-focused high beam with an output of 140 lumens and a wide-angle low beam that puts out 20 lumens of considerably longer duration. It's available with a two-hour rapid charger.

Continued on page 60

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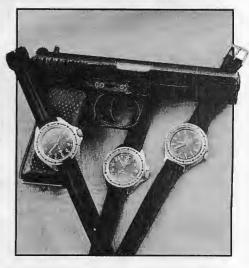
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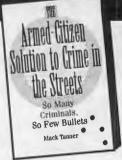
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### I WAS THERE

### I Shot Down A UFO

by Joseph F. Reynolds

urtling through the air at 35,000 feet in a modified T-33 Air Force training jet at nearly 500 mph, I suddenly saw it. The instructions of the Ground-Controlled Interception director (GCI) at the radar site on Okinawa, 250 miles southwest of my location, put me in such close proximity to the object I was hard put to avoid a collision.

There was no doubt I had found the craft we had been scrambled to intercept. The Pacific Ocean below was already obscured in darkness, but there was still sunlight at my altitude and it glistened on the huge translucent surface of the UFO.

The situation was tense in 1958 on the island of Okinawa. Red China had been particularly belligerent toward Taiwan, and was threatening to invade the Taiwan-controlled islands of Quemoy and Matsu. On Okinawa, many expected war. The American response consisted of deploying more and more military aircraft to the crowded airfields on the island.

In this already anxious atmosphere, a troubling unidentified radar return had been appearing on the screens for days. Fighter-interceptors were scrambled to investigate and identify the object on several occasions, but always found themselves running low on fuel in an empty sky. The radar blip frequently vanished, only to reappear after the fight-

ers had returned to base. The mysterious radar sightings, in addition to driving controllers nuts, began to draw considerable publicity on Okinawa.

Because of the tense situation, it was assumed the UFO was hostile, but it remained a mystery, defying visual contact. Two T-33 jet trainers, modified to carry extra fuel and fitted with .50-caliber machine guns, were parked in front of my office at Kadena Air Force Base,

ing and asked him to fly as my wingman. We ran to the T-Birds and executed a fast, professional scramble. I immediately contacted GCI and we were given course headings during takeoff.

At high altitude there is no sensation of speed, whether in a supersonic jet or the subsonic aircraft I was flying. If you come upon an almost stationary obstacle at 500 mph your closure rate is breathtaking. I was on the UFO so

pear-shaped with a round, circular top that tapered together at its base. Attached by a thick cable was a torpedo-like object. The bottom of the object had four fins, making it look like a huge bomb hung upside down. As I passed underneath, my wingman warned of a cable several hundred feet long attached to the finned underside of the capsule. I had apparently flown right through it.

I described all this to



The situation was tense in 1958 on the island of Okinawa, made more so by a troubling unidentified radar return that had been appearing on the screens for days but eluded interception. Photo: Universal

on constant alert for another sighting.

The call came late one afternoon. As a veteran fighter pilot, I had no intention of scrambling any of the aviators on the alert roster — I wanted this puppy myself. I grabbed a young pilot who happened to be in the build-

suddenly I had to throttle back the engine, drop my dive brakes, then flaps and finally landing gear to slow down enough so I could examine my prize.

I described the object in detail to GCI. The UFO was a huge, translucent balloon about the size of a 10-story building. It was the radar controller. If the large torpedo-shaped object was made of plastic with a long wire antenna, it would explain the appearance and disappearance of the returns on the ground radar as the balloon responded to the vagaries of high altitude winds. After what seemed

endless circling, I wondered why we hadn't installed a camera on at least one of the two birds.

My fuel supply was soon foremost on my mind and I asked GCI to check with the commanding general for further instructions. The order came back: Shoot it down! I passed the word to my wingman. Our attack approach was cautious since we didn't know if the balloon would explode. We set up a gunnery pattern and fired.

The UFO slowly lost altitude as we made pass after pass, firing our machine guns while it fell into the sea. We were told the Navv had been alerted and was sending a destroyer to retrieve the wreckage. When asked if we could loiter over the area to provide a good fix for the ship, my reply was a respectful "No thanks," and a request for a homeward heading.

I was surprised by the interest our mission had stirred up. A group of officers, including several colonels, the base commander and a general from higher headquarters literally grabbed me as I climbed out of my plane and began to pump me with questions. Apparently the Navy never recovered the wreckage, making my eyewitness account more important. Although I had described all I could see over the radio, I was interrogated for more than an hour after I landed. I was even ordered to Japan and Far East Air Force Headquarters to be asked the same questions all over again.

The majority of intelligence officers seemed to suspect that the balloon had been launched from Red China. The torpedo-shaped object was believed to have been an electronic device to measure the quantity of radio traffic on Okinawa. Increased radio activity is generally a good tip-off for a surprise attack. The xenophobic Chinese were probably suspicious that America might be planning such an attack from the island in light of the hundreds of additional aircraft deployed.

I don't profess to have a complete answer. I know only that the balloon and its freight had been classified as a UFO. I found it and shot it out of the air. X



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### THANK GOD FOR NUKES

When I hear the pious fools seeking guilt for the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, thereby ending the war Japan started, I note that neither the effete critics nor the puff-adder politicians were with us in the assault craft or the stink-

ing rice paddies of the Pacific. Stammering reluctance is obvious, but they do love to pontificate about rights that others, and the Bomb, bought and preserved for them.

At best, these hypocrites display profound ignorance of causal relation-

ships. At worst, there is a word in the Constitution defining those who love the enemy more than their own countrymen.

In 1945, America was the only nation in the world with the Bomb. It remained so until two among us betrayed it to the Russians. Still, this American weapon system ended World War II and was the prime deterrent of earth's latest model tyranny — 70 years of Soviet coercion and domination of human beings.

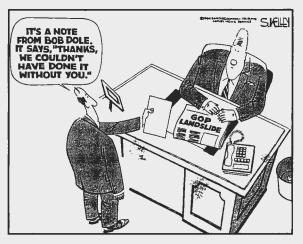
Hear this loud and clear: Thank God for the A-Bomb! Amen.

James Fletcher Baxter (Sgt. USMCR, WWII, Korea)

Van Nuys, California

### LOOKS LIKE A SETUP, SMELLS LIKE A SETUP...

In the October issue of SOF, Robert K. Brown wrote in an editorial: "Many are fearful that government, in desperation, will manufacture some incident that puts gun owners in a bad light prior to this year's elections. The



current government is not beyond staging some stunt that will deflect the people's attention from its general failure to govern and justify a confiscation or more Draconian restriction ..."

Brown was so right. Days before the election, newspaper headlines blared: "Man Sprays White House with Bullets."

I have to hand it to those who orchestrated this one. Perfect timing. I will wager that in six weeks you will not be able to find out where Mr. Duran (the alleged gunman) is being held, if he is. I am sure that he was well paid for his trouble and the embarrassment of being tackled by two tourists while

another tourist conveniently videotaped the whole incident; Hollywood could not have staged it better.

What is the ulterior motive our government has for taking our guns? Do they know something we do not, for surely these learned representatives do not believe any more

than you or I that banning guns will stop crime. In fact, it will increase it. Only the crooks and the police will have guns, and John Q. Public will be at the mercy of both.

Amos R. Limoges Editor, Minute Man Report

P.O. Box 3054 Sandpoint, ID 83864

### EVERY MAN A HERO

I would like to say that after my service with the 82nd Airborne in the Persian Gulf, I encountered similar "free Bronze Star" incidents like those mentioned in October's "FLAK" column.

In an awards ceremony about a month after returning stateside, every senior NCO and officer in a leadership position was awarded the BSM. I remember somebody in our company's formation saying "The Army needs its heroes."

I would like to add that this letter is not written

because of jealousy on my part. You see, my unit being infantry, everyone, E-1 and up, myself included, was "awarded" the Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB). I was there and know that not one damn person in that battalion deserved anything besides a campaign ribbon.

It pisses me off because in an army full of such "combat heroes," many times the few who actually earned these awards, or worse, died for them, are denied them.

B. Gorton Middlebury, Vermont

### ABUSED ARMENIANS

Mr. Goltz tells a sordid tale of Gary Best and his Azeri pals wanting to steal oil and willing to spill Armenian and Azeri blood to do it in "The Great Azeri Oil Scam" (Nov. '94). But there wasn't much about the Armenian side of the war and I'd like to offer a bit of perspective on the conflict.

Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia have a population of 3.5 million, Azerbaijan 7.1 million and its traditional ally, Turkey, 58.3 million. With those numerical odds, mercenaries and all the oil money, Armenians have reason to fear their neighbor.

My fear is that if this conflict continues, it is bound to escalate. This may draw Turkey into taking military action against Armenia as it did during and after World War I. The Turkish objective would be twofold.



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First, by helping the Azeris (the Turks claim a kinship with the Azeris, formerly known as Tartars), they would gain access to the vast oil fields as payment for aid given. Second, it would provide them cover to continue the annihilation of Armenia which they undertook in 1915 and 1921.

The Azeris have no historical claim to Karabakh. Near the end of World War I. Karabakh and other historically Armenian lands were given to Azerbaijan by Stalin in a treaty between Russia, Germany and Azerbaijan, in exchange for German promises not to recognize Armenia as an independent state. In return, Germany was granted access to the Baku oil fields. After World War I the British occupying forces reaffirmed the bogus borders. British interests also wanted access to the

Baku oil fields. The Armenians, who had been largely annihilated, had no choice but to go along. Now that the communists have self-destructed, the Armenians rightly want their land back.

Berge K. Jermakian Valley Stream, New York

### CRIME PROBLEM? WHO YOU GONNA ASK?

As a convicted felon now serving a 12-year sentence in federal prison for armed bank robbery, I am particularly familiar with what will deter crime — namely, armed citizens. Taking away availability of firearms just makes it easier for criminals such as myself to take what is desired. We will always have weapons at our disposal no matter what laws are enacted. Take it from someone who really knows what will deter

crime: the criminal's uncertainty that his victim, or anyone else for that matter, is armed.

For answers to a devastating medical problem, people seek doctors; for answers to the crime problem, consult a professional criminal. Not taking away the public's access to protection is the answer. The government has it wrong.

Michael D. McAfee Tallahassee, Florida

### HUMBLING THE U.S.A.

I'm writing in response to "Arabian Justice" ("FLAK" SOF Nov. '94). I agree with most of this letter but have a problem with the last paragraph about Michael Fay.

Anyone who thinks that Fay being caned was a good thing is an absolute moron. Fay was caned for only one reason: He was an American. Singapore used this case to humble America and President Clinton. The kid that was with Fay got out of Singapore without punishment.

Anyone should be able to see this for what it was: an arrogant insult from a people who are so jealous of our strength and prosperity they can hardly stand it.

One more thing: If the author of the letter did two tours in Saudi and can talk so tough, why didn't he have the balls to give his name and address? I do.

James P. Nagle Greenville, South Carolina

### WRITE TO SOF

We invite reader comments: Send letters to SOF, c/o FLAK, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306. Due to limited space we reserve the right to edit for content and brevity.

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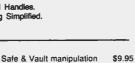
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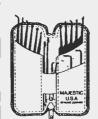
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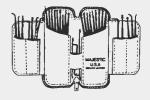


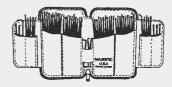
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### SLICK WILLIE WATCH



### THREW THE BUMS OUT

Even Democrats with the sense to *not* have Slick Willie campaign for them got tossed, in an election that was one of history's greatest guilt-by-association events.

As we go to press, the spin doctors and liberal media are wringing their hands raw over the "sour mood of the electorate." and entirely missing or ignoring - the point. The electorate was thoroughly fed up, but no incumbent Republican congressmen senators. or governors were defeated. Even Democrats were so fed up with Slick Willie that since they couldn't stomp the Democrat they wanted, they stomped any Democrat they could find.

Based on our exit polls taken at the Dew Drop Inn, the electorate seemed specifically disgusted with the programs, foibles, follies, policies and ethics of the current administration, and by association, any of his party — you might say, all he stands for. Since the day Clinton took office under the flag of being a "New" Democrat, the suspicion has been snowballing that if his own wife can't trust him, why the hell should we?

Starting with the crooks and Rip Van Winkles of the tired, far left with whom this self-proclaimed "centrist" leader surrounded himself, to the anti-freedom programs boiling from the White House in

many guises, Slick Willie managed to rub the American people against their fur almost from the start. Never has Lincoln's statement been more appropriate, that "You can fool all of the people some of the time [his election], and you can fool some of the people all of the time [the effete, ivorytower New Age liberal groupies), but you can't fool all of the people all of the time." (If you don't believe that, count the votes again.)

On the day of President Kennedy's assassination, a gasping twit network reporter asked President Eisenhower if the country would not now founder leaderless and fall apart. With a pitying smile and his famous stutter lke told the reporter, "No, no. The American people are a people of great common sense. They will instinctively know what to do."

### **COMMON SENSE II**

And he was right on the money. Just because a pack of degenerate leftwing social engineers may think they're so smart they know what's best for the Great Unwashed, and think they're so smart they don't have to tell us what they're really up to, it doesn't mean that even Forrest Gump can't smell a rat

Even if finding it difficult to articulate with words what they're thinking, the body politic knows how to express what's in its gut at the ballot box. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to catch Slick Willie lying: It only takes a two-day memory.

Of course, the side dish on the Hill-Bill "Two-For-One Blue Plate Special" [sic] soured on the public tongue, too - about the time her 100-grand slick 'n' quick venture in the meat futures market came to light, followed by her secret-cast-of-thousands cadre to tug America into the socialized medicine swamp. If worthy politicians were lost in the landslide when the electorate reminded the Dems, "You work for me, so you're fired," the net gain will be worth the sacrifice — especially if (a) the new crop on Capitol Hill can check the left, downward spiral, and (b) the momentum holds until the presidential election.

### THE NEXT STEP, THE NEXT ELECTION

Retaining Clinton is in neither our national nor personal interest. Long before the elections. New York columnist Thomas Sowell put it succinctly for us who fumble translating our gut into verbiage: One of the new media pastimes is trying to figure out why so many people have such disdain, hostility and even hatred toward President Clinton. Polls [exhibit A, the recent election] show growing numbers of people not only disagreeing with Bill Clinton's policies but also expressing

distrust, anger or contempt for the man himself ... Sometimes nothing is so hard for the deep thinkers to figure out as something that is obvious. Nobody likes a phony. And the reason "perso many people ceive" Bill Clinton as a phony is that he is one ... All in all, we are talking about a couple of sleazes and power-hungry sleazes at that. Moreover, they have surrounded themselves with people who think the government should be taking over more of our lives ... The combination of arrogance. dishonesty and sleaze makes the Clintons not only unattractive but danaerous.

Does this overwhelming rejection of left-wing candidates reflect reaction to specific Clinton agendas such as disarming honest people, indenturing us all to a socialist medical scheme, gutting the military then bleeding it out on no-national-interest racks like Haiti, and staffing government harassment agencies in the name of fighting crime? Or does it portend, as one staffer quotes a friend, a return to Norman Rockwell?

We'll accept either.

But neither will happen if time is wasted celebrating and counting coup. With a big rock to move, once in motion, you don't stop: Momentum is our greatest ally. And this rock must be moved clear to November '96.

32 SOLDIER OF FORTUNE FEBRUARY 95

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awesome! You have to see it in action to believe just how effective it really is. Don't confuse "PNEU-GUN" with old style "stun guns", "Un-Guns" or "Bean Bag Guns". There is no comparison in power, quality, range, effectiveness or sheer beauty of design. Keep on in your car, next to your bed or handy for that unexpected emergency. The "PNEU-GUN" air powered ballistic baton is the perfect alternative to a handgun. Legal, effective, yet safe to use.

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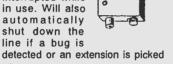
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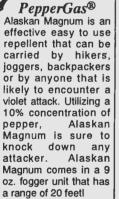
This unit has both a light emitting diode and a meter read out. Will tell you if your line is interrupted while in use. Will also automatically shut down the line if a bug is detected or an extended.



ST1... Phone Check...\$79.95

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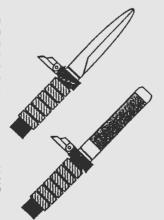
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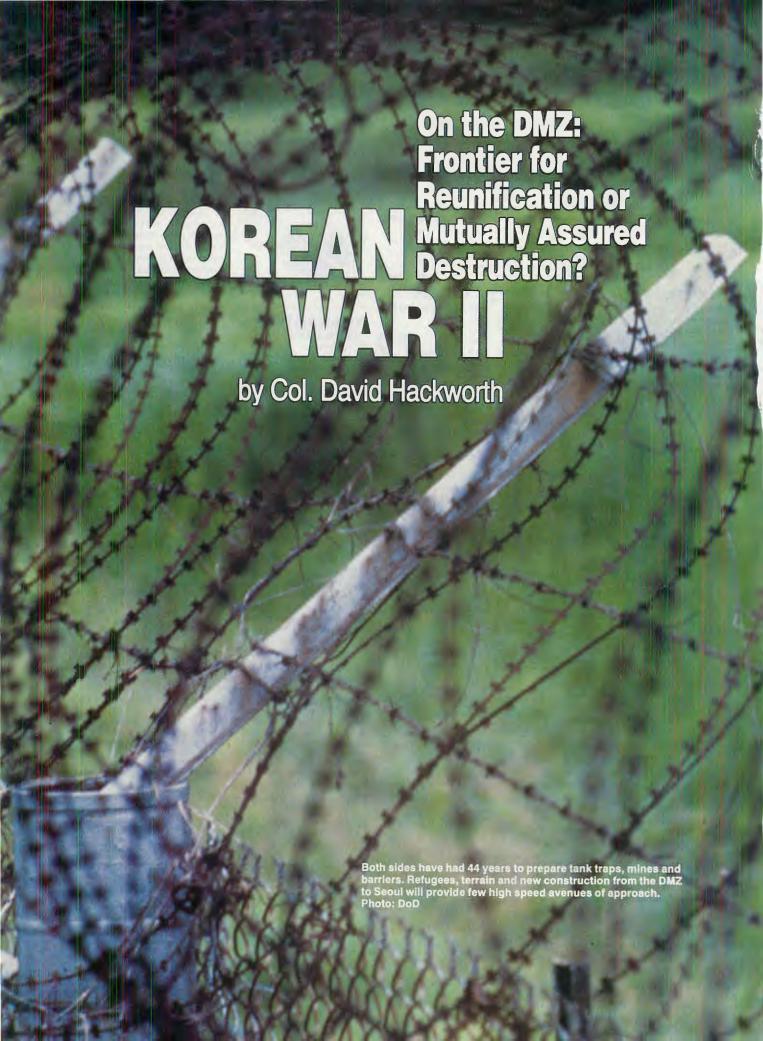
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### Seoul, South Korea:

There's no military fever here, nor has there been any unusual activity for a good while on the part of either side in this last campaign of the Cold War. As a Southern general told me, "The political tension has been high, but military tension has been low."

There's a lot of locker room talk on how Korean War II will be fought, but no one knows what will happen, especially the laptop commandos. Sure, there's a plan that gives in boring detail the expected who, what, when and where. But war never goes according to plan. No one knows. Not Kim Jong II or the U.S. military chief here, General Gary Luck, commander of U.S. and Republic of Korea (ROK) forces, who led the hard-hitting XVIII Airborne Corps during Desert Storm.

North Korean generals are masters of deception and Luck's trademark is maneuver. It's safe to say Luck will not go toe-to-toe with more than a million North Korean attackers. He'd like to use the air-land battle concept that was so effective in Desert Storm, stressing firepower and maneuver. His problems are twofold: selling the concept to the South Koreans, who want to defend every inch of their homeland; and the terrain—rugged mountains and narrow passes that favor the North's defensive positions laid 60 to 100 miles deep.

The initial advantage lies with the North. They will choose the time and place for the attack, and mass and strike at points of their choosing. Meanwhile, Luck's forces must defend everywhere. The communists will wait until the weather is overcast, denying an allied air counterattack. They'll initiate the war with the heaviest artillery prep ever seen. For more than eight hours, millions of rounds of artillery shells and rockets will land across the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Their artillery tubes are buried deep in granite tunnels with steel blast doors and their mortars are screwed down in small manholes on the reverse slopes of their fighting positions. Counterbattery fire will not work until they are out in the open, on the attack. Many of the frontline defenders, the cream of the South's regular army, will by then be either smashed or insane from the horror of the most awesome barrage in the history of warfare.

If Kim Jong Il's army follows the

pattern that I experienced in the '50s, they'll follow their barrage with masses of fanatic, attacking infantrymen supported by armor. The defender's surviving artillery batteries, tactical air and grunts will bloody, but not stop them until they're deep in South territory.

This attack could be supported by the North's massive chemical and biological capability, but the threat of U.S. nukes should keep these horrible weapons holstered. If nuclear weapons are used, the prevailing winds will carry their radiated poison over most of South Korea and southern Japan.

North Korea will employ their 100,000-man special forces. These elite fighting men will enter the country — as they have in recent years — by sea, air and tunnels dug under the DMZ. Wearing allied uniforms, they will destroy vital airports, seaports and command posts, and disrupt lines of communication. Similar behind-the-lines activities during the first Ko-

down on key roads to obstruct North Korean armor. For the attacker, it is essential to keep the roads open for their blitzkrieg.

Even though the North is reported to have almost 7,000 armored vehicles poised to attack, I don't think they're a big deal. In 1950, the North spearheaded its assault with T-34 tanks and great success. Back then we had nothing to stop them except hand grenades and grit. Today, our antitank capability, ranging from shoulder-fired weapons to Apache attack helicopters, will turn this armor into the world's biggest junkyard.

The forward tank traps, mines and barrier walls the South has had 44 years to prepare, and the nature of the land — rugged hills with new cities stretching south from the DMZ for over 50 miles — provide few high speed avenues of approach. The building boom has produced thousands of high rises and new buildings. Insiders tell me that if war comes, all will be blown as part of the barrier plan.



American soldier approaches the military demarcation line along the 38th parallel. Both sides constantly test each other's nerve along this DMZ. Photo: Rob Krott

rean War drove commanders and soldiers nuts. Tens of thousands of allied troops were employed protecting supply lines and critical installations.

These special forces will also target the 5,000 engineers who man thousands of obstacles that cover every avenue of approach. It's these engineers' jobs to flip the switches and fire charges that will bring tons of concrete blocks and other clutter

Even if the North's tanks plow through all the clutter, they'd only run into the real obstacle — the north/south roads gridlocked by hundreds of thousands of abandoned South Korean cars. There are at least 30,000 U.S. civilians in Seoul. If the balloon goes up, they'll join the millions of city folk heading south. Refugees trying to escape in the early 1950s were a huge problem. They blocked roads,

obstructed reinforcements and supplies and frequently got caught up in our minefields and wire. Today, there are 25 million more potential refugees. A former U.S. plans officer, Major John Medve said, "If the North attacks on a Saturday, they're hosed. They'd never get through the weekend traffic."

However, North Korea's crack light infantry divisions will climb over the dead, scamper through the craters and disappear in the rugged, tree-covered mountains dominating the plains below. These rugged warriors with strong backs and stout legs can move with great speed and stealth. Supplied and assisted by special forces and

its gross national product on arms since the 1950s. Although total dollars spent on defense is peanuts compared to the United States and Seoul, they still have one of the most powerful armies in the world. Their gear is old, but they have a fire-in-thebelly spirit that wins battles - they'll slug it out on a few rice balls a day and give in only when they're in a body bag. They're skillful, iron-disciplined troopers who follow the basics: camouflage, marksmanship, and fire and maneuver. They require a small logistics tail and are expert night fighters even though they don't have fancy night vision gear.

When I recently visited the DMZ,

funds, canceling large unit exercises. But this will have small effect on divisional units' ability to shoot, scoot and sting. The intel people say they are self-sufficient except for fuel, of which they are reported to have a 90-day strategic reserve. In the end, if they do come, weak logistics will eventually kill them as it did before. They'll simply run out of steam somewhere south of Seoul. But they'll never run out of fight.

Their air force is worse than Iraq's, with planes so old that their first pilots are grandfathers. Today's pilots are not well trained and fly no more than seven hours a year. If they can get their crates in the air, they'll prob-

ably head south and kamikaze into the first installation they see.

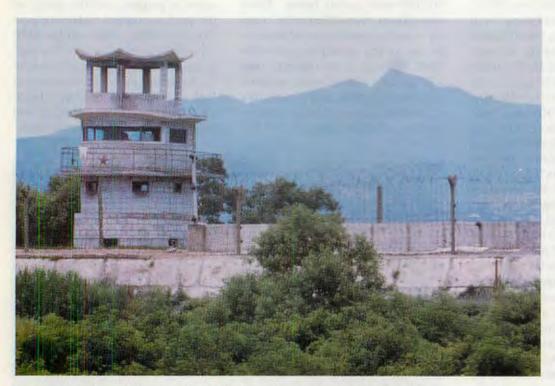
Their air defense system, described by one of Luck's intelligence officers as "robust," is the world's most dense missile and antiaircraft defense in the world. A veteran pilot who flew here during the Korean War said, "It was a hundred times worse than over Germany on a bad day." Today, they're even tougher, with more than 9,000 guns and 10,000 surface-to-air missiles manned by gunners who don't know the word blink.

Besides an old diesel-sub fleet that's quiet and hard to de-

tect, their navy has PT boats and a few ragged combat ships. But they have a swift fleet of aircushion craft, giving them one of the world's largest amphibious capabilities.

#### **Pound For Pound Tough**

The South Koreans have the tightest operational security I've seen. They totally blocked my visits to front-line units until I complained of better access in Hanoi. A general replied, "Our government policy is news people need permission from the top." But my comment hurt. Soon the steel doors opened a crack and I got a peek —



No one here, in his right mind, even thinks of attacking the North. "It would be like assaulting through 100 miles of Normandy Beach," says one planner, who knows the score. Photo: courtesy DoD

long-in-place Red agents — whose network spreads all over South Korea — they could be one of Luck's biggest headaches.

Luck's plan, I'm told, is to swap ground for time while he reinforces with at least six U.S.-based divisions. However, the light infantry warriors, special forces, Scud missiles and mines laid by Pyongyang's 25 submarines could close down both sea and air lifelines in a heartbeat.

Pyongyang, the last remaining dinosaur of the Cold War, has been fortifying itself since the country's inception. It's the biggest bunker on earth. North Korea has spent 25% of I noticed the soldiers on the other side wore threadbare uniforms with cracked leather belts, but their hands were huge, raw and mean from practicing karate. They actually shook with hatred like attack dogs when they looked at me from a few feet away. In the autumn of 1950, they charged barefooted, half-starved and with only a few clips of ammo. One soldier who fought both the Japanese and the Koreans told me, "The Japs were pussycats compared to the NKs. They were the meanest bastards I ever fought."

The collapse of the Soviet Union has put the hurt on their training



From North Korean OP, communist observers can survey two huge regular armies on line along the DMZ, the best of South Korea's forces.

U.S. 2nd Infantry Division and 4 million reservists secure the rear.

Photo: Rob Krott

not a good look — behind the wall.

From what I saw, I found the South able to defend themselves. What a difference from 1950, when they were not known as fighters, but runners. "South Korean forces came of age in Vietnam," said retired U.S. Army Colonel Carroll Hodges, a scholar/ soldier who has watched them grow during the 30 years he has continuously served. The South Korean Tiger Division ended that war with the highest kill ratio of any allied unit. The Viet Cong got out of their way, as they believed in Sherman's scorched earth policy and leveled all opposition to the ground.

Today, the South's mainly draftee army is deployed with two huge regular armies on line along the DMZ, a powerful mechanized corps in reserve and 4 million reservists securing the rear. The ROK army is bigger than the U.S. Army. Luck likes to say, "My army is bigger than my army." It's a capable force and, pound for pound, those who live through the artillery barrage will fight well.

The South outspends the North by a ratio of six-to-one on arms, has twice the population of the North and 10 times the economic output. Their gear is good. Their K-1 tank is better

than anything the North has. Artillery is old and desperately needs to be replaced by protected, mobile, self-propelled tubes. The ROK air force can do its job well in daylight but, like the ROK army, has little night vision capability. This is nuts because that's when the North Koreans will fight and move.

The South's priorities are skewed; it bought a costly submarine and is building two more. Subs are neat toys, but that money could have been spent more wisely on the basic stuff that keeps warriors alive and allows them to win. The only explanation for the subs: The South Korean navy still looks at Japan as a potential enemy. My biggest worry is the regular army will be lost in the first month of the war and the reserves will have to pick up the chips.

I looked at some of their reservists in training and they seemed to be typical weekend warriors: fat, unmotivated and just putting in time. A retired U.S. general, who recently commanded here said, "They have the wrong guys up front." Still, they're getting ready. I saw Southern soldiers working like beavers along their three World War I-style static defense belts north of Seoul, clearing fields of fire, improving concrete and

sandbag fighting positions and getting ready to defend if the North makes its move. These positions are carved in the top of almost every hill and in every valley from the DMZ to the outskirts of Seoul. Scattered in front of this outmoded way of fighting are millions of antitank and antipersonnel mines which sounded

impressive until I talked with a U.S. engineer officer who told me that many mines have been in the ground for more than 25 years, and he thought the many bush fires — set by the North for just this purpose — have melted their detonators, leaving them harmless.

Backing up the ROKs on the ground, located just north of Seoul,

is the U.S. 2nd Infantry Division. It's a good fighting outfit with a hot mission. They're not tied down with wives, kids and a peacetime routine. It has a real enemy only a few miles away who has made war noises for four decades. They train under the same grueling conditions they'd find in combat. I looked at their tanks, artillery and infantry, and they're ready.

#### No Miscalculations

Brigade Commander Ray Bartlett said, "Training here is intense, realistic and focused. We're on the battlefield." And they are, or could be, with the pull of a lanyard. I watched a U.S. rifle company attack the same position for two days in the rain and mud. They did it over and over until they got it right. Bullets were cracking, machine guns were firing overhead, bangalore torpedoes and grenades were exploding and Platoon Sergeant Tom Sexton was shouting to his attacking grunts, "I'm up, I'm seen, I'm down," reminding the troops to hit the ground after a threesecond broken field dash. On the last go, the men did it perfectly. They were wet, bruised, muddy and exhausted, but proud. Their skipper, Captain Sheppard, said, "Good job, guys. But we'll do it one more time."



Allied forces benefit from realistic training on the same ground they would defend, but face a formidable foe that has been making war noises for decades just across the wire.

Photo: DoD

Though the division is not on line, but in reserve, they're still too close to the North's cannons: If there's no early warning, many troopers will take their lumps before they get out of the motor pool. U.S. commanders see their presence here as a deterrent, much like our forces were in Europe during the Cold War. "One of our missions is to stop a miscalculation,"



Border guards shook with hatred like leashed attack dogs when author approached checkpoint. Unlike Iraqis, North Koreans would undoubtedly fight with determination and skill. Photo: SOF file

said Col. Mike Sullivan, and "to make sure the price we paid in the 1950s that benefited all Koreans does not have to be paid again."

The 2nd I.D. is backed up by 24 F-16 fighters that fly out of Osan, South Korea, and more from other ROK bases. The fighters can see at night, but their A-10 aircraft controllers have no night vision capability. The U.S. Air Force has the same problem as the South Koreans in terms of working out what is important for war-fighting. Because of the strong Northern air defenses (which will keep the supporting aircraft above 13,000 feet), the mountainous terrain, well dug-in enemy and low ceilings, air power will control the skies, but not add much to the nitty gritty, bloody stuff that goes on down on the ground for the first 24 hours.

The U.S. Navy will control the seas and hammer North Korean units off both coasts. Their biggest problem will be North Korean mines. We have few mine sweepers and initially all sea-lanes and ports will be choked.

As the United States did prior to the invasion of Panama, augmentation packages are being quietly slipped in, improving Luck's ability to defend. Supplies are pouring into Pusan and other ports along with shiploads of bombs and smart weapons. The "Scud-busting" Patriot is here, although it's more of a psychological weapon than an effective antimissile system. Even if it worked, the 48 launchers couldn't shoot fast enough to bring down the hundreds of Scuds that would come with the first shots of war. Apache attack helicopters, proven tank-killers, are replacing Cobras. Night vision gear is pouring in along with counter-fire radars, which will have the difficult task of fixing the North's artillery. Global positioning systems and secure commo gear has been uncrated.

Pyongyang has made angry noises about the U.S. buildup. The Pentagon has rightly said the gear and people are strictly defensive and "should not be taken as a provocative act." No one here, in his right mind, even thinks of attacking the North. "It would be like assaulting through 100 miles of Normandy Beach," said one planner who knows the score.

#### **FedEx Combat Pilots**

The biggest problem — and it's had 44 years to grow out of control

Capt. Judy Ward, a 2nd Division supply officer, if she had any problems down at the using end. She walked me through the drill. A part that was ordered by an artillery unit took two days to arrive from the States by Federal Express. She assured me if triggers are pulled, Federal Express' civilians won't cut and run. On the other hand, merchant sailors bringing bombs, beans and bullets into Pusan are not that gung-ho. One said, "If the shooting starts, I'm heading for Canada."

I'm told that there are not enough trucks, cargo-handling gear, rail and air facilities to move the stuff forward. Another serious problem is the U.S. Air Force transport fleet. According to Marine Gen. Mike Hoar, it would not be able to support a buildup here even if North Korean Scuds and enemy special forces allowed planes to land. All of the retired U.S. generals I spoke to are worried about this.

But active duty generals are confident and positive. Perhaps that goes with the stars: Generals who openly express their lack of confidence lose their jobs. The biggest tactical mis-



North Korean propaganda village of Kijong-dong as seen from South Korean side of DMZ. This relic of the Cold War attempts to paint a rosy picture of life in North Korea but fools no one. Photos: DoD

— is in the logistics area. An Army colonel said, "The supply system is broken. Luck knows it and is fixing it." No one knows what's in the U.S. depots. One old friend said he found "a 76-day supply of recoilless rifle ammo" — possibly a half million rounds for a weapon that the U.S. Army retired a decade ago! I asked

take is defending along the DMZ. The regular forces — including the 2nd Division — should defend south of the Han River and let the second team, the reserves, outpost the DMZ and fight a delaying action. A retired senior general with three years' re-

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### MEXICO'S TO&E

## <del>44444444444</del>

ARMY

ARMY: 130,000 personnel; 36 zonal garrisons comprising one armored cav, one mech infantry, 19 motor cav and three arty battalions. A mobile reserve force (estimate) of three infantry brigades, one armored brigade, plus a 4,000-man rapid deployment brigade of one assault battalion and two MP battalions reportedly developed to protect southern border, oil fields. Some 1,500 troops assigned to air force, plus engineer/support units. No army aviation.

Department of Military Industry produces H&K licensed small arms, ammo, grenades, powder, artillery rounds. Diverse obsolescent arms also in inventory.

## たなななな

NAVY

NAVY: 37,500 personnel; 1,050 in aviation and 8,000 marines. Five major bases east coast, light forces at Acapulco and Guaymas. HQ, schools at Veracruz. Country divided into 17 naval zones for 17 coastal states. Craft: three destroyers, 102 patrol and coastal combatant ships, 81 patrol craft, 21 RPBs, 33 supply/miscellaneous craft. Aviation comprises approximately 20 helicopters, 20 recon, 11 transport and seven utility planes; about 500 naval air personnel. The 8,000 marines are in three battalions (one in presidential guard) and about 15 scattered units. Besides Mexican-made small arms, they have 25 amphibious vehicles, 100 60mm and 81mm mortars, and eight 105mm towed guns.



#### AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE: 8,000 personnel; including a 1,500 man airborne brigade. Approximately 100 combat aircraft, including 25 armed helicopters, a squadron of 11 F-5 and F-5E fighters, plus mix of recon, transport, training, utility aircraft. Air force also flies presidential fleet of nine Boeing jets.

NOTE: There have been some recent sea imports of army weaponry including LAVs, other equipment of European/combloc origin. No specifics publicly revealed. Army has maintenance problems due to many types and ages of light weapons, vehicles. Because of older U.S. naval craft, navy has difficulty securing parts, keeping ships operating. Air force has experienced difficulty keeping aircraft, especially helicopters, operable.

--R.A.

#### Each symbol represents 8000 personnel

be in abeyance, but the dissent that spawned it continues.

U.S. media gave the recent Mexican election much attention, covering conditions such as endemic governmental corruption, the drug problem, crime, kidnappings, vote rigging, disparities between rich and poor, plight of the peasants, general unrest, poor economic conditions and the armed rebellion in Chiapas.

The PRI that has controlled Mexico for 65 years barely survived, receiving only 50%, instead of its normal 90%, of the vote. However, the party did elect its nominee in what was probably the last gasp of the longest enduring, one-party control of a nation in modern times.

Vital American security interests require an economically and politically stable, friendly Mexico. Recent U.S. ambassador to Mexico John Gavin declared, "We have with Mexico a marriage without the possibility of divorce."

From the Mexican viewpoint, the relationship with its powerful neighbor to the north has been punctuated by wars they lost. The love-hate relationship was aptly described by Porfirio Diaz (1830-1915), the former Mexican despot who ruled for sev-

eral decades, who said: "Poor Mexico. So far from God, so close to the United States." Historically, Mexico's juxtaposition with the United States has been costly.

The U.S. press, stock market, political and economic observers generally reacted cautiously, but favorably, to the recent Mexican election that gave a six-year extension of the status quo. These pundits neglected

to discuss, however, the one vital factor that will probably determine Mexico's future: the ability of the Mexican army to maintain internal security, while concurrently suppressing the present, and potential, threat of insurrection. Any failure of this poorly understood segment of the Mexican power structure to perform its traditional role could result in a social breakdown of the country and its infrastructure, leading ultimately to civil war.

#### **Rough Neighborhood Watch**

The implications of such a disastrous event and its effect on the security of the United States is a source of increasing concern. In 1986, General Paul Gortnan, former chief of the U.S. Southern Command, projected, "In 10 years the president of the U.S. [would] focus as much time on affairs with Mexico as on any other security matter." That time may now be approaching. The American public seems unaware of the seriousness of this situation and its effect on our foreign, domestic and defense policies. Current administration concerns with Haiti and Cuba pale by comparison.

The Mexican military has had little influence on her foreign or domestic policy since 1940. In this time there have been no generals as president or any military coup, and a "tamed" military, unique in Latin American history, has resulted. In return for its apolitical role, the Mexican military is pampered by the governing PRI



New uniforms, at least a smattering of new weapons such as these M16 variants, plus sophisticated use of the press — here in a press conference in the Lancandon jungle during last year's uprising — would imply Mexican EZLN rebels were not merely a rag-tag bunch of extemporaneous fanatics.

party. Generals and ranks have been given generous salary increases and financial perks, provided with an independent educational system, good retirements, commissaries, medical facilities, arsenals and a standard of living above most Mexicans.

Without foreign threat, the Mexican army has concentrated on three tensity against the narcotics threat.

Under previous regimes, the military machine withered while financial priority was given to social and other domestic problems. The government denied requested funds and budgets directed toward modernizing armament and equipment, and enhancing the ability to conduct

heads of his armed forces. The secretary of defense controls the army and air force. The navy operates through a separate secretariat. Both the secretary of defense and secretary of the navy have cabinet rank and are in the operational chain of command. Each president selects military ministers who will personally be the most loyal. The president often personally appoints key military zone and naval district commanders.

The Mexican army, the largest and dominant armed service, has organized the country into 36 zones with boundaries closely corresponding to those of the Mexican states. Three states - Chiapas, Guerrero and Veracruz — have two zones each. The zone covering Mexico City and the Federal District is largest, being the center of power. The 36-zone garrisons are the core of the Mexican army. There is also a presidential guard in Mexico City that provides security for the president, his family and key political figures. Many officers of the presidential guard also serve as aides to politicians. This unit enjoys a priority in regard to arms and equipment, and its commanding officer reports directly to the president.

Army zone commanders generally work closely with state officials but are not subordinate to them. Their chain of command extends directly



More than 200 rebels form ranks in Huixtlan (between San Cristobal de las Casas and Occcingo) two days into the uprising of January, 1994. Although the rank-andfile were often poorly armed, they seemed - for revolutionaries - to be well trained and led.

missions: being a national police force; performing civic action, social services and infrastructure building; and acting in support of civil agencies during national disasters. During the past two regimes it has also conducted, under civil authority, campaigns of varying in-

counterinsurgency operations.

#### Playing Catch-Up

Now Mexico is confronted with revolution. Defense officials have long recognized the dangerous po-

tential of unrest in the south and along the Guatemalan border, but like the Mexican government, they were caught by surprise with the rebellion in Chiapas last year.

The recent election is yet to resolve anything in the festering Chiapas situation, or the very real potential for its rebellion to spread to other areas with similar social and economic problems.

Funded by a frightened government, the Mexican military is now playing catch-up. It is purchasing a few more arms, vehicles

and combat aircraft, is modestly increasing its strength, and is conducting counterinsurgency training. But this may be too little, too late.

The Mexican president is commander in chief and appoints the



Mexican MP gets out of the way of Indians marching through San Cristobal de las Casas three weeks after Chiapas uprising. Government military response and peace overtures brought about cease-fire - but without substantial long-term gains for impoverished southern states, area remains ripe for revolution.

Wearing cartridges like a Navajo wears turquoise, EZLN rebel leader Sub-Comandante Marcos holds a press conference in San Cristobol de las Casas cathedral on first day of negotiations between rebels and

Continued on page 67

to the president through the defense

secretary. The navy functions with

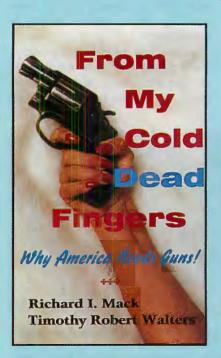
eight naval districts, four on each

coast. The principal naval installa-

# Sheriff Mack's

No one came to last year's annual Soldier Of Fortune convention with greater status as a folk hero than did Sheriff Richard I. Mack of Graham County, Arizona. He had the individual courage to stand up and shake his fist in the face of a federal gun-grabbing Goliath. In contrast to the herd ignorance of so many of his law enforcement peers who have forsaken solemn oaths in a popular stampede toward federal fascism, Mack remains true to himself and the people who elected him by holding the U.S. Constitution sacrosanct.

As the son of an FBI agent, Mack grew up around firearms and hardly sees himself as a folk hero. He merely believes he has a sacred duty to uphold the solemn oath he swore when he pinned on a badge. It was that sense of duty that thrust him into the media spotlight — and into



the pantheon of those increasingly rare individuals who aren't afraid to follow truth and righteousness alone, when the flock strays off the difficult path toward the easier, supposedly greener pastures of political correctness.

"I knew a waiting period would violate the Second Amendment and the Arizona Constitution's guarantee that citizens' rights to keep and bear arms could not be 'impaired,' but I

waited to see the actual bill before I passed final judgment," Mack wrote in the preface to From My Cold Dead Fingers: Why America Needs Guns, which he co-authored with Timothy Robert Walters, an Arizona journalist.

What Mack later learned did not change his mind: "The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms sent ... all law enforcement administrators copies of their interpretations of the Brady Bill, and instructions detailing our 'duties' to enforce it," Mack wrote. "The BATF followed

up by meeting with all county attorneys and sheriffs in Arizona on February 2, 1994, and again discussed with us means by which we would be enforcing the Brady Bill. Every sheriff and county attorney present was opposed to the Brady Bill; not one of us felt it would help curb the tide of violence and crime in Arizona or anyplace else. I decided at that time I would have to fight the Brady Bill or succumb to the pressure to violate my oath of office by serving the federal government instead of the people of Graham County."

Mack's moment of truth came on 28 February 1994. Assisted by the National Rifle Association, the Arizona sheriff filed suit in U.S. District Court in Tucson, declaring he would not enforce the Brady Bill's mandatory fiveday waiting period for handgun purchases. On 28 June 1994, U.S. District Judge John Roll ruled in favor of Sheriff Mack, declaring the Brady Bill unconstitutional and barring federal agents from enforcing its provisions.

The Justice Department countered by begging the judge to issue an order specifying that Roll's ruling apply only to Sheriff Mack. "How can the Justice Department mold a judge's ruling to suit its own purposes?" asked coauthor Walters. "How can a ruling on a federal lawsuit by a federal judge be made to apply to one man? How can a federal law be unconstitutional for one person and not everyone? It seems as though our Pledge of Allegiance "... with liberty and justice for all' has taken a one-way hike down Memory Lane. ..."

A subsequent court decision declared no, Roll's ruling applies to the entire state of Arizona. Court challenges similar to Sheriff Mack's have been upheld in Montana and Mississippi, but in the latter case, the scope of the ruling was limited to a single jurisdiction. A federal court challenge of the Brady Bill in Texas failed. Others are pending.

#### **Gun Control Laws Ineffective**

Mack, with Walters' help, has organized all his ideas and feelings about gun control and gun ownership into his 221-page book, which is written with a great deal of plain-spoken passion, and backed up with a vast array of well-footnoted, cold, hard facts.

He explains how Bernhard Goetz, tagged by the antigun media as the so-called "Subway Vigilante," came to buy a gun for self-protection. After being mugged and beaten, the New York police spent twice as much time interrogating Goetz as they did the mugger; Goetz's subsequent application for a handgun permit was summarily

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denied. Thus, the mild-mannered

Goetz was forced to choose between his fear of being

killed by criminals or becoming a criminal himself

by carrying an un-

registered handgun

for self-protection.

chapter, to explain

the travesties of justice inherent in

the Randy Weaver

case, the son and

wife of whom were murdered by fed-

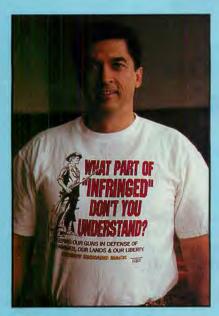
eral agents not

yet punished and,

of course, the

scores of Branch

The book goes on, chapter by



Sheriff Mack takes a break from signing copies of his book at the 1994 SOF convention. From My Cold Dead Fingers sold out in a matter of hours. **Photo: Tom Slizewski** 

Davidians shot and burned to death by the federal government in Waco. The book's arguments are underpinned by such authoritative academic researchers as Gary Kleck of Florida State University — a liberal Democrat, but an honest and meticulous social scientist whose findings about the utter ineffectiveness of gun control laws have been conveniently ignored by gun control advocates and their media allies.

Mack and Walter's book explains the original intent of the Founding Fathers and framers of the Constitution, and exposes the real intent of such gun control advocates as Michael Gartner, president of NBC News: "There is no reason for anyone in this country --- anyone except a police officer or a military person — to buy, to own, to have, to use a handgun ..." Gartner told USA Today in its 16 January 1992 issue. "The only way to control handgun use in this country is to prohibit the guns. And the only way to do that is to change the Constitution."

It's hard to misinterpret the intent of such a declarative statement. But the book includes a quote by President Bill Clinton to the same newspaper on 11 March 1993 — when the Waco siege was not yet two weeks old - in which he let slip that his real intent was not to outlaw handguns alone: "We can't be so fixated on our desire to preserve the rights

## Arizona Lawman Faces Down Gun Grabbers

### by James L. Pate

of ordinary Americans to legitimately own handguns and rifles ... that we are unable to think about reality."

Mack and Walters then masterfully contrast Clinton's declaration of intent with an equally ominous statement by this century's all-time champion of gun control, one Adolf Hitler, who assured all loyal and patriotic Germans that by outlawing citizen ownership of firearms he was merely "freeing men from the responsibilities of freedom, which only a few men can bear."

In the chapter titled "History of a Natural Right," after puncturing the inflated and skewed "statistics" touted by the gun grabbers, Mack and Walters sum it up quite nicely: "Gun control legislation is unconstitutional. ... A federal

government becoming more and more powerful by self-authorization, however, has good reason to be nervous about freemen ... armed to the teeth and ready to take it on. What better



A surprise guest at last year's SOF convention, Sheriff Mack's impromptu remarks won him a standing ovation at the banquet. Photo: Robert Walchli

reason (in the mind of the government, anyway) to alter the basis for that ever-present threat of civil rebellion?

"Preservation of freedom and democracy in the United States of America has fallen on the shoulders of armed citizens for more than 220 years," the chapter concludes. "It still does."

"I feel it's a disgrace for my party (Democrat) and my government to be telling the war veterans of this country that they will now be felons for possessing the same types of weapons with which they risked their lives in defense of our country," Mack told SOF, pointing out the hypoc-

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# SARAJEVS SREISWEETS

## U.N. Anti-Snipers Zero In On Terrorist Sharpshooters

**Text & Photos by Richard Lucas** 

The sun creeps across the scarred tile roofs of Sarajevo and the streets begin to fill with people desperately seeking normalcy. For a few weeks now the city has been calm. Most of the heavy guns that rained terror on Sarajevo for the past year have been forced back by a U.N.-imposed security zone, or have been quieted by the threat of NATO air strikes.

Cafes, shops open and the hum of human activity fills the air. Ignoring for a moment the rubble and ubiquitous bullet holes, the city takes on an almost normal air.

But the calm is soon shattered by the sharp crack of a high-powered rifle. An early morning shopper lies in agony on the pavement and the streets boil with panic as pedestrians run to cover. A sniper has taken another victim and his sights are set on his next mark—anyone courageous enough to help the person writhing in a pool of blood.

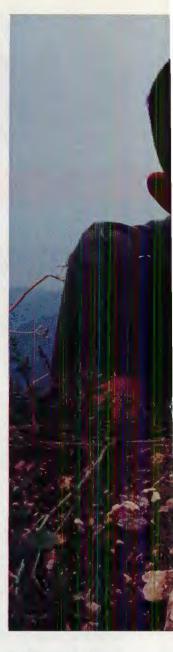
This scene has been played out many times in Sarajevo in the past few years, but this time the scenario has changed: Within seconds a network of observers in constant radio contact have located the sniper's position. A trooper snaps the safety off his big McMillan anti-sniper rifle and sends an explosive .50-caliber slug deep into the sniper's lair. At the same time a 20mm cannon blasts adjoining rooms, cutting off any exits, while another trooper with FRF2 rifle is ready to take out the target if he makes a break for it.

These men are part of the highly trained, strategically placed anti-sniper teams that are now a key factor in the U.N. peacekeeping effort and civilian protection deployment in Sarajevo.

#### **Highway To Hell**

Perhaps the most dangerous stretch of road in the world is the four-lane highway running from the airport east of Sarajevo straight into the city center. As you leave the airport checkpoint, you're on a small road curving through a no-man's land of empty lots, burned-out houses and destroyed industry. A few crudely written signs warn of mines. Walls are tagged with military or paramilitary slogans. Two Serbian tanks lie rusting by the road, evidence of that side's attempt to enter the city from the airport area early in the war. After another set of checkpoints you pull onto Vojvode Putnika, a long, straight stretch of four-lane cutting through the modern part of Sarajevo. Here the broad, spacious highway is lined by apartment blocks, commercial buildings and small kiosks.

The buildings show the extent of the heavy shelling to which the city has been subjected during the past two years. The facades are pockmarked by fragments; blackened windows show the results of direct hits by rockets; broken glass and twisted metal are scattered everywhere. But despite the macabre setting, life continues. People are sitting in front of the buildings, going for water, or working in improvised gardens grown wherever a plot of



On hill overlooking Sarajevo, French trooper with AA 7.62x51mm NF-1 GPMG scopes out activities of potential snipers. By predetermining and logging sniper positions, countersnipers can immediately return fire.



land can be found. Here they are far enough, about two klicks, from the confrontation lines to be out of immediate danger.

A kilometer or two farther down the highway, as the

city center comes into sight, the desolation is complete. The street is deserted. Arriving at this section of Vojvode Putnika or "Sniper Alley," you sit lower in your seat, pull your helmet down tighter, and squeeze deeper into your flak jacket. As the car races by the four ominous white apartment blocks that have been the known haunt of snipers since the first days of the war, you hold your breath.

Bristling with 20mm 20F2 M(693) automatic cannon, coaxial AA 7.62 NF-1 machine gun and McMillan .50-cal. anti-sniper riffe, French VAB APC serves as mobile firebase/OP.

The half minute needed to clear the area and make the relative safety of the city center seems like an eternity.

During the past year hundreds of people have been killed or wounded by snipers in this area. Despite the U.N. security zone that drove heavy weapons out of range, sporadic sniping continues here.

In addition to being the catalyst for creation of the anti-



sniper teams, the lingering sniper threat in Sarajevo has resulted in an important change in U.N. policy regarding its role in civilian protection. Before, orders on returning fire were quite strict: U.N. troops were only to return fire when and if directly fired upon, and then with confirmation by a ranking officer. In the case of a threat to civilians the policy was much more ambiguous. In an extreme case,

when civilian lives were in immediate danger, "dissuasive" fire could be used in an attempt to intimidate the aggressor and discourage further hostilities. Recently a more aggressive stand has been taken by the bluehelmeted troops in hopes of put-

who has served in peacekeeping and policing missions in Lebanon, Chad, Central African Republic, Zaire and Kurdistan.

I spoke to de Haynin at his 4th battalion headquarters



Neighbor against neighbor: View from Jewish cemetery, scene of some of the bloodiest fighting in the war, shows intimate juxtaposition of warring factions in Sarajevo.

ting an end to the sniping.

#### **U.N. SOP For SOBs**

I asked United Nations Protection Force military spokesman Major Rob Annick of the Dutch army about antisniper policy: "Snipers are a continuing problem in the city. We have several anti-sniper teams covering the areas most frequently exposed to sniper attack. They are prepared to fire back and will fire back immediately if fired upon." On UNPROFOR policy concerning sniper attacks on civilians: "If civilian lives are in danger, our soldiers have been instructed to take all necessary measures to remove the threat. If a sniper can be located and his position confirmed, we will physically eliminate him as long as this intervention poses no threat to civilians or others in the immediate area. Of course it is extremely difficult to positively identify the sniper and locate his exact position."

This difficult task of anti-sniper deterrence is in the hands of the 8th RPIMA (Regiment Parachutists de L'Infanterie de la Marine), the French army's crack paratroop regiment under command of Colonel Guy de Haynin de Bry, a seasoned veteran

in the Skandaria sports complex, built near the city center for the 19th winter Olympics. "The policy of immediate retaliation gives us a certain advantage, but there are still limitations imposed on us by the U.N. man-



date and the task which we have been assigned to fulfill.

"Also our target is not an easy one. The sniper can choose his time and place. He can hit and run, fire once or twice and be out before we have time to fire back. When he does work from a fixed position he is usually well dug in, shooting out of im-

provised but effective bunkers much like what we encountered in Beirut.

"From a military point of view, a search-and-destroy operation is what's called for and I have the men capable of carrying out that type of mission.

McMillan
M1987R .50-cal.
countersniper
rifle can reach
out and touch
snipers:— with
explosive
rounds — in
excess of
1,000 yards.

But we simply can't go in and take them out. They are operating in a zone which is out of our jurisdiction. We are here, in Sarajevo, essentially to imple-

ment a policy of sniper dissuasion. If it is necessary to physically eliminate the sniper in order to protect lives and make this policy work, my men have orders to eliminate the sniper and remove that threat.

"What complicates the situation is the fact that the two opposing sides are in extreme proximity, sometimes only 20 or 30 meters apart, and they are equipped with the same weapons. All this makes identification that more difficult."

I mentioned to the colonel that most people took it for granted that in Sarajevo incoming rounds would originate from the Serbian side. But according to de Haynin this simplified view isn't totally accurate. "That's what we would like to think." He paused. "But this is far from being a clean war. Here there are no rules and we're in the middle of it. You may not read about it in the papers but we've had reports, confirmed reports, of shots aimed at our troops and at civilians which came from the Bosnian side. This may have been the actions of a few radical individuals who wanted to provoke the situation and place the blame on the Serbs. Whatever the case may be, we can't act without positive identification of our target."

As he laid out the basic strategy of observation posts and firebases, the operation seemed to be a logical way of dealing with the sniper problem. But was it really efficient? And was it succeeding? I think that was effective. Of course we can't go in and take a body count, but we've got our sources. Sarajevo is a small place and news gets around. You hear about people entering the hospital and the morgue. All I can say is that at this point I'm fairly sure we've achieved three 'confirmed' kills. And that's enough to get them thinking, enough to put a little hesitation there just before they pull the trigger. Hopefully enough to give the firebase a few more seconds to react."

#### Firebases On Wheels

The firebases that de Haynin spoke of consist of VABs (Véhicule de l'Avant Blindé — Renault-built APCs), which are the base of operations for the five-man anti-sniper teams. Besides the main armament on the VAB, a 20mm cannon coaxial to a 7.62x51mm machine gun, each



the question he had been waiting for. "Well I would say so. We've been operating for almost a month now and the incidents of snipers shooting civilians or U.N. personnel has decreased considerably. In a short time we've made a lot of progress, mostly in the area of coordination between the different teams, in communications and in the spotting and tracking. My boys are starting to know the territory like the backs of their hands and they're picking up on changes quickly. I feel that we're starting to get a jump on the other side.

"As far as being efficient, it's hard to say. We've had several incidents where we've fired back and I've got every reason to believe that it was team is equipped with a .50-cal. McMillan anti-sniper rifle with 16X scope, a 7.62x51mm FRF2 scoped rifle, and standard issue French FAMAS infantry rifles.

The armored vehicles, placed at strategic points along Sniper Alley, are usually set up at intersecting roads and give an open view of the confrontation line and the four "sniper towers" that loom overhead. The teams work in two- or three-man shifts of four hours so that the area is under continual surveillance. They are in constant radio contact with other spotters and observation posts.

When I arrived at Sniper Alley during my last trip, I could see five of the white U.N. APCs spaced about

150 meters apart, their guns pointed in the direction of the Serb-held buildings on the other side of the river. As I approached one of the APCs I could see a trooper inside scanning the area with binoculars. As he called out fire coordinates, another trooper followed with the scope of the FRF2 sniper rifle and verified each one. A sketched out, panoramic view of the area was taped to the bulkhead in front of them.

I climbed into the back of the APC and the team sergeant explained the activity. The mapped-out coordinates on the sketch code-named each building in the area and designated each window or other possible sniper site with a letter and number. In this way the spotters and the fire teams had the same references, and any activity could be radioed in and then located and followed by the other teams in that sector.

"We run through the sector coor-

Panhard armored scout car at firebase Sierra Echo: Small, agile and armored, the Panhards have proved ideal for patrolling, enforcing the peace in city environs.

dinates a few times a day, especially whenever someone takes over surveillance so that everyone is familiar with the area. Also, we've got about a dozen possible sniper positions in our sector

which we keep under observation. After that, except for making sure the weapons are ready to function and the periodic radio checks, it's a waiting game."

I asked the sergeant if they had seen any action. He said that he hadn't personally, but called to the soldier who was behind the McMillan antisniper rifle set-up on the roof of the vehicle. "Chevardez! You were here last week when there was firing." The soldier dropped back down into the APC. I found out later that Corporal Chevardez had been in Chad and Zaire, and though he found the operation in Sarajevo to be relatively calm, he was more than willing to talk about the previous week's action.

"One of the spotters picked up movement in our sector and radioed in the coordinates. The sniper was setting up in one of the white block apartments across from us, about 350 meters away. I was already on target when I heard the shots and the smoke gave me the visual confirmation I needed. I had time to get off two

rounds, both explosive, before the 20mm swung into action and sent in a volley. That took out a good piece of wall and that was it. I think I got him. Anyway it's been quiet from up there ever since."



With firebases on constant alert and in constant communication, technique of identifying and fixing all potential sniper positions allows countersniper teams to return accurate, immediate suppressive fire.

Novembre I saw that the cemetery

was about five meters above us, atop

a steep embankment. I looked up

thinking, "From up there anyone

could have us in his sights before we

knew what was coming down."

The action was brief and the wait had been long, as is typical in this cat-and-mouse operation. All the troopers would have liked to see more action. As the sergeant said, "We're trained for rapid deployment and quick, aggressive tactics. This waiting game works on your nerves at times. But most of us figure it's more interesting being here on operations than sitting around at home."

## Dealing Death From Among The Dead

I later accompanied press officer Adjutant-Chef Jacques Antione in one of the French VBLs (Véhicule Blindé Léger). The VBL is a small, threeman armored vehicle manufactured by Panhard, which because of its size and maneuverability is ideal for urban warfare. We made a broad detour through part of the old town and swung onto the "Transit," a two-lane road skirting the south side of Sarajevo, now cut in two by the confrontation line. The western part is held by the Serbs and it serves as the major supply route from their Pali headquarters and the airport area to the Serbian troops in Sarajevo.

The U.N. observation post Sierra Novembre lies on the Transit where the road is divided by the two warring parties, just below the Jewish cemetery, the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting in and around Sarajevo. The bullet-scarred gravestones add a macabre element to the eerie front line.

When we arrived at Sierra

Antione must have sensed my uneasiness as he explained that U.N. posts weren't particularly well known for their defensive capabilities and that they more or less placed them where they could or where the opposing parties agreed to allow them.

Sierra Novembre consisted of two spotters' bunkers, a .50-cal. emplacement, two bunkers for sleeping, a latrine/supply tent, and a main tent that served as combination CP/OP room. radio room and mess hall for the 12man squad working eight days on, three days off. When we arrived, Adjutant-Chef Bianci, in charge of coordinating the four posts with the other teams, was going over location coordinates with the squad leader. They were using aerial and panoramic photos of the area, plus detailed maps, and comparing them with the actual terrain. Again, each building had been code-named and coordinates were being cross-checked for reconnaissance purposes and in case tactical air support was needed.

The week before, one of the observers at Sierra Novembre had been killed, the first casualty of the 8th RPIMA in Sarajevo. A round came through the view port in the sandbags, went through his Kevlar helmet and killed him instantly.

One day while I was there, firing started from up on top — Serb positions. I grabbed a helmet and flak jacket and headed toward OP One. I got into the bunker just as the trooper on watch began working on map coordinates. Just as I stepped into the

narrow corridor of sandbags, I heard a whistling sound as a bullet slammed into one of the bags inches above my head, sending a spray of gravel over my helmet. The trooper looked up, "Shit, that was close!"

It had been close, very close, and also very intentional, coming in from directly across the bunker. That was no stray bullet.

As I quickly got ready to leave for Sierra Echo, another OP on our itinerary, I felt the dull concussion of a high explosive round landing nearby. Everyone was scrambling to get into their flak jackets and helmets. Through the ringing in my ears I heard the sergeant tell everyone to head for the APC. A rifle-fired grenade hit about five meters from the tent. Antoine and I double-timed it to the VBL. After I slammed the heavy metal door and secured the latch I felt a bit safer. As we U-turned out of Sierra Novembre I could hear the engine being revved and looked back to see a billowing cloud of black smoke.

On the way up to Sierra Echo they filled me in on the situation and SOP. As it was unlikely the squad could defend one of the observation posts against an all-out attack, orders were simple: At the first sign of danger, jump into the APC, prepare defensive fire and take evasive action. In other words, get the hell out of Dodge.

The road to Sierra Echo was steep and wound through a suburb. We were far enough from the city center that it seemed more like a mountain village than an extension of urban sprawl. Sierra Echo observation post was at the site of a former Yugoslav army radar installation. The setup was much like that of Sierra Novembre below, except that here we had a view of the whole of Sarajevo, from the airport all the way to the east side of town.

#### Fighting In The Rat's Nest

But here, again, we had close neighbors. The Bosnian trenches weren't more than 50 meters below, and on the ridge behind, trench lines of the two sides ran the whole length of the mountain.

As darkness fell over Sarajevo, the sporadic fighting which began almost every afternoon intensified. After chow we stood on the ridge overlooking the city to watch a firefight

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# U.N. TROOPS "INVADE" ARIZONA

## Wickenburg Patriots Confront The Enemy And It Is Them

by Richard Sherrow

The Russians are coming ... the Russians are coming! Or in this case, the Germans. Like scenes from the movie, segments of the small Arizona town of Wickenburg recently teetered on the edge of armed hysteria due to reports of foreign invaders. Unlike the film version, this contagious rumor was not confined to local word-of-mouth. Today we have phones, faxes and the computer bulletin board, and before you can say "conspiracy" the alarm was flashing across the wires at the speed of an electron. In this instance, it would seem that electrons travel faster than neurons.

Late one night in August the phone shattered my peaceful contemplation of the cosmos: A friend vacationing in Michigan called wanting to know what the hell was going on in Wickenburg. He had just gotten a call from a buddy in Arizona who told him that more than 60 armed U.N. troops had been spotted sneaking around Wickenburg, and that local patriot groups were loading up and heading out to confront the enemy.

Well, I too have an inquiring mind, so I told him, "What the hell, I'll check it out." Wickenburg is a town of some 5,000 souls located about 50 miles northwest of Phoenix. Although social security is now the main industry, Wickenburg made its mark during the gold boom of the late 1800s, and even today you find a mix of old prospectors and desert rats among the satellite dishes and tourist traps.

On the way out I tuned in a talk radio station, in time to catch a caller from Wickenburg. Yes, it's true, he claimed: cammie-clad invaders, hundreds of black helicopters. Why, they were even taking photos of the town's critical intersections. [Wickenburg



Secret U.N. bivouac out Wickenburg way, showing camouflaged, invading commandos with stockpile of military hardware. Inset: The face of incredulity — German trainee reads Spotlight, tabloid with stories of U.N./Russian/ NWO troops invading U.S. Photos: Mike Ratliff

only recently got its first stoplight.]

About this point the radio host was starting to wonder if maybe this call was coming from "where no man had gone before," so he asked the guy if there were tanks out there, too.

"Yes!" the caller exclaimed. "They got a tank and everything." I'd have turned around right then, except that I was carrying my trusty 35mm antitank camera.

At the "invasion site" on Constellation Road, north of town, I found myself surrounded — by solemn saguaros and what few insects will brave the Sonoran desert's midday sun. Nothing stirred in the August heat, but I noticed a lone figure, a sentinel with six gun tied low, staring at me from across a sandy

wash on a nearby hillside.

It's a fact that just a few hours in this heat can boil the contents of your braincase, and from his demeanor I'd have guessed this dude hadn't come in out of the sun since the McCarthy hearings. In a voice flattened by the onerous heat I heard, "Who're you? Watcha' doin' here?" I assured him I was just looking for the invaders. To this he hitched up his gun belt and proudly proclaimed, "We run 'em off!" and related an audacious tale of black helicopters and foreign devils.

"What about the tank?" I asked. "We run it off, too!" "Where was it? I'd like to take some photos of the tracks, maybe follow them." "Ain't no tracks, they covered 'em up." "Well, show me where they [the tracks] were."

By now the nameless sentry among the saguaros was getting fairly pissed. "Jest who the hell are you? You one a' them here to cover your tracks?" Hanging around there was starting to

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A Persian proverb states that in Oman, sinners are provided with a taste of hell. The British Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) swallowed far more than just a taste in this volcanic-rock-strewn desert during its two successful campaigns there. The first lasted no more than a few months during 1957, but the second, a six-year war during 1968-74 in the southern mountains of Dhofar bordering communist South Yemen, provided a test of men and equipment as few other places can on the face of the earth.

SAS troops were principally armed with the L1A1 (Commonwealth version of the FN FAL) rifle, some U.S. M16A1s and M79 40mm grenade launchers, the L7A1 (British version of the FN MAG 58) GPMG and the L42A1 sniper rifle. Last year Navy Arms Co. (Dept. SOF, 689 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, NJ 07657; phone: 201-945-2500, fax: 201-945-6859) imported a small lot of these latter firearms. Although Navy Arms no longer has any in stock, they will be encountered at gun shows and warrant

a detailed examination, since if nothing else, the L42A1 represents an interesting episode in military sniping history.

The first true Lee-Enfield rifle was introduced in 1895. The Short Magazine Lee-Enfield (SMLE) No.1 Mark III was adopted in 1916. Battle-proven in two world wars and numerous other campaigns, the Lee-Enfield has demonstrated reliability under adverse conditions ranging from the muddy trenches of the Somme to the blowing sands of the Sahara. Unlike the famous '98 Mauser, the Lee-Enfield cocks on the forward motion of the bolt and many believe this was partially responsible for the incredible rates of fire British soldiers were able to achieve with this turnbolt magazine rifle.

The No. 4 SMLE, upon which the L42A1 is based, was adopted in the late 1930s. Some of the changes from previous models included eliminating the magazine cutoff, which stiffened the action, raising the bridge to permit installation of a leaf aperture sight, altering the bolt

## **End Of The Line For Venerable L42A1**

# SAS Sniper System

Text & Photos by Peter G. Kokalis





head and changing the shape of the safety lever.

The L42A1 is a caliber 7.62x51mm NATO conversion of the caliber .303 British No. 4 Mk I(T) and Mk I\*(T) sniper rifles of World War II vintage. It was approved 24 August 1970. The conversion consisted of installing a cold-hammer-forged, caliber 7.62x51mm, four-groove, 27.5-inch (698.5mm) heavy barrel with a right hand twist of one turn in 12 inches (305mm); cutting the length of the stock's fore-end to "sporter" size; installing a new 10-round staggered-column, detachable box-type magazine and reproofing the action. The barrel is free-floated in stock.

After conversion to L42A1 configuration, the rifles, scopes and mounts were given the standard British military black, baked enamel finish on all metal parts. While not as pleasing to Americans as bluing or parkerizing, this type of finish does a better job of inhibiting corrosion in tropical environments.

#### **Robust And Reliable**

Soldier Of Fortune's test specimen was originally manufactured in 1943 (marked on the left side of the receiver's butt socket strap) and converted at Enfield Lock in 1971, as so indicated on the left side of the receiver. The rifle's serial number is marked on the left side of the butt socket strap, the bottom of the magazine, the scope mount, the stock fore-end and the buttstock. A wooden cheekpiece has been added to the buttstock to provide a cheek weld of the proper height for deployment of the scope. The standard bronze, curved buttplate was retained.

Both the rifle and scope — detached and stored in its metal case — were shipped to us in the original, fitted wooden transit box (a British characteristic) along with a

British 22 SAS Regiment sniper armed with L42A1 sniper rifle and U.S. M79 40mm grenade launcher in the Salalah Plain,

Dhofar, early 1970s. Photo: courtesy Col. Bruce M. Niven

copy of the original manual and cleaning kit with nylon brush, oil bottle, pull through and chamber cleaning stick. Missing were the lens brushes, cased Scout Regiment Telescope (a draw-type, hand-held spotting scope), the sniper's short rifle cover and sling. L42A1 slings were originally either web or an "American" leather style. In 1975 a two-piece nylon sling was adopted with nylon-coated buckles and clamps to reduce noise.

In addition to the standard front and rear sling swivels, a combination sling

At 12.5 pounds, complete with scope, the L42A1 is too heavy, although the No. 4 Mk I action upon which it is based is robust and reliable with a battle-proven track record in numerous conflicts throughout the world.





Optical equipment for the L42A1 consists of the World War II No. 32 Mk III 3X scope and mount rebuilt and regraduated for the 7.62x51mm cartridge with 144-grain bullets and redesignated as the "Telescope Straight Sighting L1A1."

swivel and trigger-guard front screw has been installed. When the rear end of the sling is attached to the stock at this point, it permits a "hasty" sling support system that exerts a positive load on the upper arm in the manner of a high-power competition sling. This system can be traced back to the Model 1879 bolt-action rifle designed by James Paris Lee. It was retained on the early Lee-Metford rifles and appeared on the 7.62x51mm L39A1 Short Magazine Lee-Enfield (SMLE) competition rifle. Jeff Cooper popularized this feature in the United States as the "CW" sling system.

#### **Outdated Optics**

Optical equipment for the L42A1 consists of the World War II No. 32 Mk III telescope and mount rebuilt and regraduated for the 7.62x51mm cartridge with 144-grain bullets and redesignated as the "Telescope Straight Sighting L1A1." It would be considered woefully inadequate by today's standards with only 3X magnification. It is provided with protective leather caps.

The scope's reticle pattern consists of a single horizontal crosshair and a pointed, thick vertical bar in the bottom half of the field of view. The horizontal crosshair is for alignment of the vertical bar only. The pointed top of the bar, which rises above the horizontal crosshair, should be placed on the point of aim. This type of reticle pattern is popular in Europe as it provides more rapid target acquisition in the dim light of thick forests. The scope tube is 11 inches (279.4mm) in length and has a field of view of 142 mils.

The range drum on top of the scope provides for adjustment from zero to 1,000 meters (a bit optimistic considering the scope's magnification) in 50meter increments. For finer adjustment, a clicker device in the drum mechanism permits the user to move the drum in single-minute clicks from zero to 1,000 meters.

The windage drum on the left side of the scope tube can be adjusted for a total deflection of 16 minutes either to the right or left in two-minute increments. After zeroing the scope and



This L42A1 sniper rifle was converted to caliber 7.62x51mm NATO in 1971 at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, from a No. 4 Mk I (T) SMLE originally manufactured in 1943. Note that the scope was manufactured in 1945 and that the scope mount carries the rifle's serial number.

rifle by appropriately turning the range and windage drums, the point of a bullet can be inserted into a recessed projection on each drum and by holding the top of the drum steady, the scales can be rotated back to zero on the windage drum and whatever range on the elevation drum the rifle was zeroed.

The scope mount is permanently clamped to the scope body with the ring screws staked in place. Two milled, spring-loaded screws on the mount engage steel pads staked in place on the left side of the receiver. The original No. 4 Mk I leaf aperture rear sight and a blade-type front sight with heavy protective ears remain in place for emergency use.

The Lee-Enfield receiver is a onepiece, drop forging that required an excessive number of milling operations principally because of its two-piece stock design, the rear portion of which is attached to the rear of the receiver by a through-bolt. This is one heavy mother as it weighs 10 pounds (4.53 kg), empty, and without the 2.5-pound scope. Overall length of the L42A1 is 46.5 inches (1,181mm).

The bolt head, ported to permit the escape of propellant gas in the event of a ruptured primer or case, is separate from the bolt body and is held in place by a screwed tenon. An undercut, lug-like projection on the bolt engages a rib on the right side of the receiver to prevent the bolt head from turning as the bolt body is rotated. The bolt body has dual opposed rear locking lugs, one of the standard type and the other in the shape of a long rib extending from the front of the body rearward to a point where it comes down against the forward edge of the receiver bridge when the bolt handle is turned down. This rib bears against the left side of the receiver when the bolt is lifted and slides through the receiver's split bridge when the bolt is retracted. This system provides a rigid guide for exceptionally smooth backward and forward movement of the bolt. The other locking lug engages a locking recess at the rear of the receiver just forward of the bridge. The rear faces of both of these locking lugs are cut with cam surfaces. The front face of the conventional locking lug is also cut with a cam surface so as to provide primary extraction when the bolt handle is lifted.

A small stud on top of the cocking piece arm engages a notch in the rear of the bolt body. When the bolt handle is raised with the action closed and the firing pin forward, this notch engages the stud and pushes the cocking piece and firing pin rearward to prevent the firing pin from traveling forward unless the bolt is fully in battery.

The safety lever is on the left side of the receiver at the rear. When the action is cocked, the safety mechanism locks both the firing pin and bolt. When the action is uncocked, engaging the safety (by rotating the lever fully rearward) locks the bolt and pulls the firing pin's tip within the bolt head so that a sharp blow to the cocking piece will not discharge the rifle. The cocking piece has a half-

## **L42A1 Specifications**

Feed mechanism: ... 10-round, staggered column, detachable box-type magazine.

Barrel: ...... Four grooves with right-hand twist of one turn in 12 inches

(305mm).

Barrel length: ....... 27.5 inches (698.5mm). Overall length: ...... 46.5 inches (1,181mm).

Weight, empty,

including scope: .... 12.5 pounds.

emergency use.

Finish: ...... Black, baked enamel on all exterior metal surfaces.

Furniture: ...... Walnut, beech or birch two-piece stock with a wooden cheekpiece to provide a cheek weld of the proper height for deployment of

the scope.

Manufacturer: ...... Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, Great Britain.

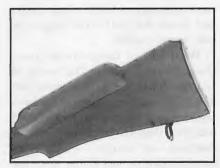
service with British armed forces.

T&E summary: ...... Too heavy. Scope does not have sufficient magnification. Accuracy potential unacceptable by today's military sniper standards. Collector

interest only.

cock notch that serves no purpose.

The firing pin is a one-piece type with a collar to provide the forward bearing for the firing pin's spring. A small but robust extractor (V-spring



A wooden cheekplece has been added to the L42A1's buttstock to provide a cheek weld of the proper height for deployment of the scope. The standard bronze, curved buttplate was retained.

loaded) is mounted in the projecting lug on the upper right side of the bolt head. A small screw in the left side of the receiver which projects into the boltway serves as the ejector.

The SMLE trigger mechanism is a military two-stage type. Trigger pull

weight on the second stage of SOF's test specimen was 5 pounds and very crisp. This is the bottom end of the permissible range of pull weights for this rifle — 5 to 6.5 pounds.

The sear is a bell crank lever which pivots on a screw under the receiver holding the bolt stop. The sear moves in a groove in the tang and uses the same U-shaped spring that operates the magazine catch/ release. The sear's long arm passes through a slot in the receiver into the groove where the cocking piece travels. Its short projects arm downward to engage the trigger

by means of a knuckle joint. On our specimen the trigger pivots on a pin in the trigger guard (on later No. 4s it pivots in the receiver).

#### **No Infantry Value**

What is the accuracy potential of the L42A1 system? Although the L1A1 scope's range drum has been calibrated for 144-grain bullets, we decided to test this rifle with matchgrade ammunition, regardless of the projectile weight. When it comes to 7.62x51mm-caliber accuracy, Federal's 308M cartridge (Federal Cartridge Co., Dept. SOF, 900 Ehlen Drive, Anoka, MN 55303; phone: 612-323-2300, fax: 612-323-2506) is the standard by which all others must be measured. It features the superb Sierra 168-grain Boat-Tail Hollow-Point (BTHP) Matchking bullet. Developed for 300-meter shooting in international matches, this remarkable bullet has been winning competitions ever since it was introduced in 1959. It was used by the gold medal winner in the 1968 Olympics and set a new Wimbledon record at 200-15 Xs in

1983 at Camp Perry. It remains far and away the most popular bullet among law-enforcement selected marksmen in the United States.

Although I have heard of a specimen that will shoot 0.625 MOA, from the bench the best we could do was 1.2 MOA at 100 yards. That's not bad for a quarter-century-old military sniper rifle, but by today's standards that kind of performance falls a bit short, as modern turn-bolt sniper rifles should approach 0.5 MOA or better. Furthermore, the L42A1 is equipped with a scope of inadequate magnification and is far too heavy, although a 12.5-pound sniper system chambered for the 7.62x51mm NATO cartridge has very little perceived recoil. At this stage, the L42A1, having finally lost its value as an infantry tool, remains of considerable interest only to military small arms collectors.

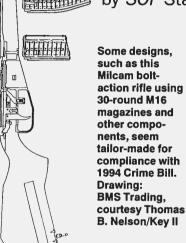
My research assistant and I are creatures of habit, especially when it comes to cleaning firearms, as we often clean many large crew-served machine guns. I get bombarded with an incredible array of lubricants, bore solvents and gun cleaning chemicals by those seeking publicity for their magic potions. For lack of time to experiment, we rarely test any of them as we already employ products that work. For years we have been using Shooter's Choice bore cleaner. It has performed well, even with the corrosive ammunition we often fire in fullauto weapons.

After firing the L42A1 we decided to clean the bore with a product called RB-17, since Jack Furr, senior rangemaster at Gunsite Training Center Inc., kept telling me it was the best bore solvent he had ever used. RB-17 is a gel and can be applied to the bore with either a copper or steel bristle bore brush. After scrubbing the L42A1's bore and then leaving the RB-17 to soak in the barrel for 10 minutes, the amount of brown rust and scum that was pushed out by the cleaning patch of what had appeared to be a perfect bore was astounding. An ammonia derivative, it can be used to remove rust from blued surfaces without harming the bluing. We now use RB-17 exclusively for bore cleaning. For further information contact RB-17 Inc., Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 2538, Spring, TX 77383; phone: 800-721-7462 or 713-350-9690. 🤘

# THE LOOK OF COMPLIANCE

Corrupted Designs Make for Politically Correct Firearms

by SOF Staff



Some 60 years ago — "to prevent crime" — Congress passed our first federal gun laws. Then, the buzz word was not "assault weapons," but "gangster weapons." Certain types of weapons then in general use were perceived to be either often used by, or suitable for use by, "gangsters" of the era, and were targeted for taxation and registration ... and hopefully extinction.

Semiautomatic weapons with large-capacity detachable magazines— the so-called "assault weapons" of today— existed then, of course, but were not regarded as "gangster" weapons.

Federal gun law reared its ugly head again in 1968 with the "Omnibus Crime Control And Safe Streets Act of 1968," which added a new class of no-nos: destructive devices, which were rifles with a bore of 1/2-inch or greater, or explosive devices, incendiaries, large rockets and so on.

In 1986, further production of the machine guns (gangster weapons) reg-

istered under the 1934 law — which had been used in *one* crime from 1934-1986, were outlawed by fiat.

This was followed by the Brady Bill of 1993, which mandated a 5-day waiting period for the purchase of a gun from a dealer, so local law enforcement would have, in theory, a chance to check the buyer out.

Having thus punished the lawabiding, the great legislative minds of our century then targeted other weapons or design features that have either never been used in a crime or are at the bottom of the criminal stats. The "Crime Control Bill of 1994," for instance, assigns a punitive point system for certain design features, some purely esthetic, such as bayonet lugs; pistol-grip stocks; folding stocks; flash hiders or a threaded muzzle; detachable magazines of more than 10 rounds (that's any detachable magazine of more than 10 rounds, rifle or pistol); carrying handles; grenade launching ability, and so on.

#### **Credible Compliance**

What effect have these laws on the law-abiding? The honest manufacturers, dealers and citizens? Until such inanities get struck down in court—at this writing the Brady Bill has been struck down in several jurisdictions, and is probably headed for more—the long-suffering good guys who respect the principle of law have to go along.

In times past, some designers have been at their creative best when complying with the letter — if not the intent, which is at times hard to divine — of the law. Take the prohibition on short-barreled shotguns: The pre-1934 smooth-bore revolvers, shot pistols, H&R Handiguns, Ithaca Auto-Burglar and the like found favor with bicyclists and those who disliked snakes or miscellaneous varmints at close quarters.

But a smooth-bore pistol suddenly became a "gangster" weapon, as it was a "short-barreled shotgun." So as late as a decade ago, firms were offering .45 Long Colt caliber pistols (similar chamber profile to .410) with straight (no twist) rifling, heh, heh. The '34 law defined as a machine gun anything with an automatically loading action that fires more than one round for one pull of the trigger — so the trick devices of the '80s were contraptions with various cranks and levers that pulled the trigger for you, verrry rapidly.

What sort of design-to-law compliant weapons are in the works to suit the '94 Crime Act? A hasty poll of various makers whose wares have now become "assault weapons" [sic] indicates they are busy marketing or readying new designs - albeit with bated breath to see if the new law stands. Noted Jim Leatherwood, designer of the ART riflescope and part of the original design team for the MAC-10 series of weapons, "The gun provisions of the [1994] Crime Bill may well not fare well in a constitutional challenge. The '34 law was based on the constitutional power of the federal government to tax; the '68 law was based on the constitutional power of the federal government to regulate interstate commerce. The '94

law is the first one to attempt flat prohibition of certain weapons."

The most dramatic effect is on makers of aftermarket high-capacity magazines. They simply have no civilian market left for high-capacity magazines made after the signing of the bill - but as you would expect they were tooling before the ink was dry on the Crime Bill. Already Ram-Line in Grand Junction, Colorado, has on the market politically correct 10round magazines for the Ruger MK II, Browning Buckmark and Challenger II/III pistols, the Ruger 10-22, Marlin M-70 and Charter Arms AR-7, plus an array in 9mm, .40 S&W and .45 ACP.

Connie Boyd of Ram-Line told SOF, "We have a number of new magazines that we hope will be out by the first of the year. We will continue to make the same magazines we did before, but they will have an internal block so they only hold 10 rounds. The folding stocks we make, such as for the 10/22 and Mini-14, will be externally identical to the original models, except that they will not fold." Boyd also expressed hope that with sweeping changes on Capitol Hill perhaps we would get a more reasonable new "crime bill," and Ram-Line and others could get back to doing what they did so well.

Manufacturers such as ParaOrdnance, makers of high-capacity .45 Colt clones whose raison d'etre was magazine capacity, suddenly found that the backbone of their product line had become "assault weapons." When queried regarding what their plans might be in light of the new legislation, the ParaOrdnance rep's response was succinct: "Cry a lot. And by January have on the market 10round magazines for the P12, P13 and P14." Their new P16 in .40 S&W, which is due on the market soon, will be offered with a 10-round magazine. As with other manufacturers' wares, the basic guns are not changing, only magazines, and high-capacity magazines will be marked for "law-enforcement or government use only."

The swing in the handgun business the last decade has been to high-capacity Wonder Nines and .40 pistols, and the big guns in the business have taken the most expeditious route to compliance with the new law,

while maintaining the same basic product as before for new police sales.

Ruger's Syl Wiley told SOF, "There have been no changes to any of our firearms. Since 14 September we have been shipping our 9mm and .40 pistols [for civilian sales] with 10-round magazines," and these 10-rounders are interchangeable with both the old, and new, "police marked," large magazines.

By shortening the magazine tube to 10 rounds, and using a larger synthetic floor plate as a spacer, Ruger's revamped magazines are compliant, and require no changes to the basic firearm. New high-capacity (standard) magazines are marked with date of manufacture and "for police use only" or "for export only," although BATF rulings on precisely what these markings should be are still in a state of flux.

This route to compliance is good news to

holster and other accessory makers. Bob Spina of DeSantis told us, "This new law has no immediate impact" on their holster-making, although noting that "the pressure, of course, is to reduce the use of guns, which would eventually reduce the market."

In the "assault rifle" [sic] arena, toolmakers such as at Olympic Arms are working overtime as we write. Manufacturers are allowed to sell what they had completed at the time the bill passed — some in fact are doling out existing high-capacity magazines one at a time — and can continue to sell their regular "assault weapon" designs to police. Noted Bruce Bell of Olympic Arms, "The Crime Bill adds to the number of guns for various markets that we will be producing." Even before the bill was signed into law, Olympic Arms was planning their next move. Said Bell, "The PC post-ban rifles will probably include one, a pump AR15; two, a rifle without carrying handle, flash suppressor, bayonet lug, CAR stock

or grenade launcher, and be limited to a magazine capacity of no more than five rounds, and three, a high-capacity rifle with a non-detachable magazine."

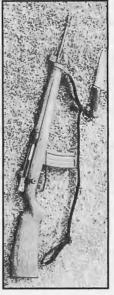
And, with the point system, many popular weapons will require little modification. The Knight SR-25, for example, does not have a folding stock, grenade capacity, carrying handle or bayonet lug, so becomes compliant by merely leaving off the threads for a flash hider.

Vickie Lawrence of Springfield Inc., makers of the very popular M1A rifle patterned after the GI M14, said, "Due to the recent passing of the 'Crime Bill,' Springfield will now have to manufacture the M1A rifle without the bayonet lug, which will change the outward appearance of the rifle, which would have made it no longer legal for DCM competition," but noted that DCM rules "have now been amended to allow the Springfield M1A rifle to continue to be used in ODCMsponsored Excellence-In-Competition matches."

Bolt-action rifles with "assault rifle" magazines and features such as grenade capability, bayonet lugs and so on have already been developed in England, and are scheduled for importation, according to Thomas B. Nelson of Key II Inc. At least one manufacturer of MAC-10 type pistols is working on a new design featuring a fixed magazine à la M1911 Steyr. If the law stands, the course of politically correct design engineering may amaze us all.

Whether these drawn-to-law designs will see the marketplace probably depends on whether the new Republican Congress gives due to the gun-owning public that put them there and revamps — or the courts strike down — the onerous provisions of the 1994 "Crime Bill."

The bottom line is, as fast as the weasels on Capitol Hill can outlaw a gun of a specific description, designers can weasel into compliance and still provide the American public the means to defend itself.



Not for decades has a holt-action infantry rifle been introduced, but the new English Milcam launches grenades, mounts a bayonet. has a 30-round detachable M16 magazine and despite its "GI" style would be legal under 1994 Crime Bill. Photo: Nick Steadman, courtesy Thomas B. Nelson/ Key II

### by James L. Pate

Mickey Downie is accustomed to hiding. For more than a decade, he has concealed himself and his true intentions behind phony driver's licenses, fake passports and an array of disguises that would fool his own mother. But he never thought he'd have to hide from his former employer, Uncle Sam. It's ironic that his best work ever as a career federal undercover operative would leave him constantly looking over his shoulder, dogged by a corrupt federal law enforcement agency, haunted by a bureaucratic culture of deception.

Operation Leatherneck should have been Downie's biggest case, a \$70 million weapons sting against the communist government of Vietnam that also targeted several "round-eye" suspects: a longtime CIA contractor, a former British SAS operative, three Marine Corps veterans of Vietnam, a retired Army logistics colonel and a former U.S. congressman. But all these people remain free, unindicted and probably savoring the ill-gotten gains of their perfidious pastime: black market weapons of war.

Just as Downie and his control officer, Senior Special Agent Frank Caliendo, were ready to close the deal in 1990, unseen hands above them in the U.S. Customs Service and the Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sabotaged the top-priority investigation. Leatherneck apparently touched raw nerves in a festering infection of political intrigue. For Downie and Caliendo, it exposed the ugly, abscessed underbelly of a so-called law enforcement agency that in this case protected and promoted the guilty, corrupt and compliant — while banishing and punishing the honest and steadfast. This concludes the Mickey Downie saga started last issue.

Even after the bad guys in the United States got suspicious that they were the targets of a U.S. Customs sting, they did not realize Downie was the man who set them up. He kept getting phone calls from the conspirators, still eager to secure his help in smuggling 16 shiploads of tanks, antitank missiles, mortars, howitzers, helicopters, fighter jets, spare engines and parts, plus hundreds of thousands of U.S.-made machine guns and tens of millions of rounds of ammunition, out of Vietnam. To prove their evil intent, Downie told them some of these implements of destruction were destined for Libya, that many of the automatic small arms would be sold to street gangs in the United States. No one cared.

But Downie began to suspect something was fishy with Leatherneck, because just as he and Caliendo were ready to go forward with the weapons-from-Vietnam deal, Richard P. Siegel, Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the U.S. Customs office in Cleveland where the operation originated, allegedly ordered Downie to break contact with the conspirators. Weeks passed. Then Downie got word that the Vietnamese government, irked that the deal had stalled, apparently blamed their own agent, a Vietnamese army general. His punishment? A firing squad. When Downie reported the general's execution to Siegel, he expressed disbelief. Within a week, however, the State Department and the CIA confirmed the death.

Downie now believes Vietnam found someone else to pander its martial merchandise. One of his U.S. intelligence sources told him that the feds seized a ship containing Viet-

nam-era Colt M16s, Thompson .45 SMGs and new-in-the-box AK-47s about 200 miles off the coast of northern California the third week of May 1994 — only a month after the decades-long trade embargo was lifted. A separate SOF source confirmed that such a weapons seizure was made. Customs said the bust was "a small one," but declined to release details, saying it is "still under investigation."

#### The Weird Turn Pro

Events prior to Leatherneck falling apart went from strange to downright weird and, in the words of gonzo journalist Hunter Thompson, "when the going gets weird, the weird turn pro," especially where Customs is concerned.

On 8 May 1990, six months after Downie and Caliendo initiated the investigation, Caliendo was summoned to Washington to present the case to the Headquarters Undercover Review Committee, which officially designated Leatherneck as a Class I undercover investigation. This gave it the highest priority — and also placed it under the direct supervision of OFAC.

As a top-drawer operation, funds and clandestine bank accounts were routinely approved to further the weapons transaction. Yet when Downie requested \$2,000 to keep an unwitting informant in place in Southeast Asia, Siegel turned him down. Already suspicious that the operation was being torpedoed from within, Downie then became convinced that Siegel was "systematically work[ing] to impede the investigation."

To add to his headaches, Downie's two FFLs for Title II weapons were expiring. Worried that any of the Leatherneck suspects could use his FFL, which is a public record, to locate his home, Downie decided it would be prudent to change the FFLs

# LUATHERN

to an undercover address. On 30 May 1990, he called the ATF. Special Agent Thomas Schneider, who knew Downie from earlier operations, answered and recognized the voice.

"I am going to be moving my FFL to an undercover address," Downie explained. "I don't care if the enforcement people know ... where I am. But we've got a case ... that's exposing me to extreme jeopardy. I don't want an FFL to come back to my house."

"Where are you going to move it to?" Schneider asked.

"Mail Boxes, Etc., on Pearl Road in Strongsville," Downie replied, referring to a mail-forwarding chain. "That's where my FFL will come back to. Operations will continue where they are now ... What do I have to do to move this FFL?"

"Don't worry about it," Schneider said.

"Well, I'd like to get this thing going before I have to renew my tax stamp," Downie said.

"OK. You'll probably need to send in a memorandum that you're going to move it," Schneider said.

"I figured I'd have to do that," said Downie. "I don't want to get in a situation with [ATF's compliance branch] where they go out to that address and I'm not there. That's why I'm talking to enforcement first."

"Alright," the ATF agent said. "You ... prepare to send it out ... And I'll just advise compliance as to what's going on."

"OK, and I'll maintain the inventory in my vaults, as I always have," Downie said. "If somebody needs to inspect it, I've got no problem ..."

The conversation, which Downie recorded, would later assume a thenunanticipated importance, when ATF used Downie's firearms licenses as a means of revenge.

The most bizarre twist in Leather-

neck came when Caliendo was, without explanation, removed from the case and forcibly transferred to Los Angeles. Normally, when an agent assigned to such a high priority case is transferred, his case load goes with him. Caliendo had been Downie's control agent for 12 years, the first four when Caliendo, now a customs agent, had worked for ATF. As a former ATF agent and Marine

to introduce to the suspects a young agent named Michael Goldsmith, who was barely out of the training academy and had no experience in the gun world.

Downie went to only one undercover meeting with Goldsmith, at a Cleveland-area restaurant. Goldsmith was wearing a Star of David necklace, Downie recalled. When the suspect, an alleged neo-Nazi, invited

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

DATE: June 13, 1991 FILE: MAN 1 S-A236-CL

TO :Director, Office of Domestic Operations Headquarters Washington, D.C.

FROM :Special Agent in Charge Cleveland, Ohio

SUBJ : Unreliable/Undesirable Source - S-A236-CL

In accordance with chapter 41 of the Special Agent Handbook this office recommends that Mickey Downey, carded as S-A236-CL, be prohibited (blacklisted) from any further participation as a source of information for the Customs Service. This source has proven to be both undesirable and unreliable. He reneged on a promise to testify at the conclusion of an undercover investigation, refused to take direction of his control agent and other supervisory agents regarding his activities in an undercover investigation and revealed proprietary Customs information regarding a sensitive undercover investigation to other law enforcement agencies and parties unknown without the permission of the Customs Service. His actions compromised more than one investigation causing possible danger to an undercover Customs Special Agent and the dismissal of criminal charges against at least one defendant.

For the above reasons, it is my belief that the individual should no longer be used as an informant by the Customs Service.

Richard P. Signel

Corps officer, Caliendo had, like Downie, a great deal of street savvy about guns.

Caliendo was replaced as case agent by Mary Mulligan, who had no experience in weapons investigations. (Ultimately unhappy with Customs, and especially Siegel, she later resigned.) Then Downie was instructed

Downie was blacklisted a year after the fact — contrary to Customs regs — by the man he suspected of being in on the sabotage of Operation Leatherneck.

Downie and Goldsmith outside to discuss the pending deal in private, "Goldsmith got cold feet," Downie said. "He sat at the table and finished his meal. The suspect thought that was pretty weird for a supposed investor."

Fearing that Customs might deliberately jeopardize his safety, Downie withdrew from the operation on 5 June 1990, and accepted an undercover assignment from the FBI involving the Cleveland Police Department. Yet Goldsmith later called Downie and asked for his help in meeting with another conspirator in Florida. Wearing a recording device, Downie met the young agent at the

ECK II

Bob Evans restaurant in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, at 1500 hours on 17 July 1990.

"I'm not comfortable with the situation they're putting me into," Goldsmith admitted. "As far as I'm concerned, this whole thing is fucked up and that's why I wanted to talk to you, out of the office, where there was no management ... I know they are going to fuck it up."

"I wish you luck," Downie told him. "Don't ever underestimate how nasty this can get. Remember, [Robert W.] Muir and [Stephen] Percival [American and British suspects, respectively, based in Bangkok] were blown up very suspiciously in this deal. They got away, barely, with their



Mickey Downie while hiding out in Washington and pursuing his personal case for justice. Downie is still pursuing his case, and still in hiding ... but far from the Capitol. Photo: James L. Pate

skins. The [Vietnamese] general who started this deal is dead."

Downie warned Goldsmith that Customs was "going to get you hurt or killed ... Everybody ... in this circle is 38 to 70 ... Some of these people are neo-Nazis. You and I [both Cau-

casian] wouldn't go in to work a black group. A Jewish kid doesn't go in to work neo-Nazis. I can't tell you strongly enough how dangerous the situation is that you're getting into. You are not qualified to do this deal."

Downie ultimately declined to vouch for Goldsmith

in introducing him by phone to a suspect for a meeting in Florida. Gold-smith admitted that he was not at all eager to continue the undercover assignment on his own. Siegel was "pushing me to do this phone call ... I'm really banking on the fact that when I make this phone call, it's all over."

Goldsmith made the call, and ac-

tually went to a meeting in Florida with Special Agent Mulligan. But Downie said Goldsmith eagerly offered an absurdly high price for a single M16, something a seasoned gun runner would never do. The conspirator got suspicious of Goldsmith. At that point, Leatherneck fell apart. Downie's life and career were not far behind.

#### **Double Cross To Bear**

Instead of being a feather in Downie's cap, Leatherneck has become a stone around his neck. It wrecked his career, both as an undercover operative and as a legitimate firearms dealer, part of what made his cover so effective. U.S. Customs

management deliberately leaked his undercover identities in subsequent operations for other agencies, placing his life and that of his family in danger. And Downie lost his Federal Firearms License (FFL), based on the probably perjured testimony of agent Schneider.

Downie's personal weapon, a Glock 17, was illegally seized by Schneider, even though

Downie was a legally certified and sworn law enforcement officer authorized to carry concealed. Then the feds lied again to get Downie listed in a computer network as having been arrested and convicted for carrying a concealed weapon. This hampered his agents of U.S. Customs and the FBI who have vouched for Downie's honesty, have received trumped up reprimands and been forcibly transferred. FBI Special Agent Dan Estrem, who had supervised Downie in another important undercover investigation and offered to help him, was suddenly moved to headquarters, then shipped out to Anchorage, Alaska. Special Agent William Allen, Caliendo's immediate supervisor and the evidence custodian for Leatherneck, was transferred to Seoul, South Korea.

Downie, meanwhile, has had to sell his home, put his family in hiding and move to another country. Yet he remains incurably optimistic. He has sued ATF to get his FFL reinstated. He has filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims to get back pay and compensatory damages incurred as a result of Leatherneck. He has also sued the feds in U.S. District Court, seeking real and punitive damages for the vendetta against him by the Treasury Department. And U.S. Rep. John A. Boehner of Ohio, whose inquiries on Downie's behalf have been repeatedly stonewalled by U.S. Customs, has emerged as a new leader in the Republican-controlled 104th Congress, opening the possibility of public hearings on the corruption apparently endemic within the Customs Service.

In a letter of 10 March 1994, Boehner wrote that his office, seeking an answer to allegations by Downie, met with the Treasury Department's inspector general, representatives of Secretary Lloyd Bentsen's office, U.S. Customs,

"Don't ever underestimate how nasty this can get. Remember, Muir and Percival were blown up very suspiciously in this deal ... The [Vietnamese] general who started this deal is dead."

efforts to get other law enforcement employment. The Glock was illegally withheld for more than a year before being dropped off without explanation at the Cleveland office of Caliendo's attorney. As of mid-November, Downie's efforts to get the phony "conviction" erased from the crime computer were still unsuccessful.

Finally, Caliendo and other honest

OFAC and the FBI. After those meetings, "I certainly understand ... [Downie's] frustration," Boehner said. "I share that frustration. It is indeed bothersome to me that official inquiries made by my office are met with stonewalling and obfuscation as a matter of policy ... I do not see [Downie] or his allegations receiving fair or timely treatment with-

in the executive branch."

Despite that, there are signs the Treasury's stone wall may crumble.

As Downie's saga unfolded in last month's SOF, the Associated Press released a series of stories that raised questions about Leatherneck and why the feds suddenly pulled the plug on a Justice Department investigation in New York City of the Standard Charter Bank of Singapore, Ltd. Standard Charter and its officer, Jonny Wei, were identified by Downie and named by SOF as key players in moving the \$70 million for the weapons deal.

#### Cracks in the Stonewall

In October, a federal grand jury in Washington, D.C., subpoenaed one of the alleged saboteurs of Leatherneck OFAC Director Richard R. Newcomb, who oversaw Leatherneck, along with the National Security Council, according to federal court documents filed in Washington, D.C.

In interviews for three separate investigations by the Treasury inspector general's office out of Chicago, Newcomb and Siegel were fingered as alleged engineers of the investigation's collapse, Treasury sources told *SOF*. Yet no action was ever taken. Meanwhile, Siegel met secretly

destroy evidence to help protect Siegel and themselves," Downie's attorney, Charles Russell Twist, alleged in a motion for a protective order filed in U.S. Court of Federal Claims. Siegel still had custody of the documents, secret tape recordings and other Leatherneck evidence obtained by Downie. Twist's motion sought to have the records moved to prevent their possible "loss" or destruction.

"It is not normal for two levels of supervision in one case [Caliendo and Allen] to be transferred out of the state," Twist noted in one court document, "leaving a man charged with criminal conduct in control of the evidence."

Fortunately, Downie — a pack rat who wears a body wire much of the time and tapes many of his phone conversations — keeps copies of virtually everything. So if the Customs Service "loses" any important evidence from the case, it could prove even more embarrassing for the feds when Downie brings his files to court.

#### Agent Vs. Agent

Siegel also allegedly attempted to destroy Downie's reputation "so that if he attempted to have Siegel's misknown in federal courts as Brady material — that would tend to cast doubt on his guilt in the minds of jurors.

After Leatherneck fell apart, Downie was working the previously mentioned Cleveland Police Department case. This sting resulted in 47 indictments, including those of 20 detectives, three police sergeants and seven former Cleveland cops in May 1991. Most of the charges involved uniformed officers taking bribes to provide security for illegal gambling operations, but also included police escorts for two truck shipments of marijuana through Cleveland.

Since this sting was in full swing — and Downie's life in danger if his identity was revealed — Siegel decided to reopen the single-count case on the Gucci handbags, which would require Downie's public testimony. Siegel allegedly ordered Caliendo to remove the Brady material from the file, according to court documents filed in D.C., which would lead a prosecutor to believe that the case could be won, thus should be tried.

Because of Downie's importance to the Cleveland PD sting, however, FBI supervisors intervened, preventing the sacrifice of an important pub-

lic corruption case just so Siegel and the U.S. Customs Service could discredit and endanger Downie.

Not to be thwarted, Siegel sought another means to discredit Downie. Two weeks after the story broke about the FBI sting in Cleveland, Siegel wrote an official blackball memo against Downie.

Dated 13 June 1991 — more than a year after Downie withdrew from Leatherneck, the memo "recommends that Mickey Downey [sic], carded as S-A236-CL, be prohibited — blacklisted - from any further participation ... for the Customs Service. This source has proven to be both undesirable and unreliable ... He reneged on a promise to testify ... refused to take direction of his control agent ... and revealed proprietary Customs information regarding a sensitive undercover investigation to other law enforcement agencies ..." (The latter accusation refers to Downie's unsuccessful effort to get the FBI to enter Operation Leatherneck.)

Continued on page 70

"It is not normal for two levels of supervision in one case to be transferred out of the state, leaving a man charged with criminal conduct in control of the evidence."

with Assistant Commissioner for Internal Affairs Walter Biondi in Indianapolis on 28 October to discuss the rapidly unfolding story, the sources said. Then Siegel spent much of the week of 7 November in Washington, D.C., meeting with high-level officials on "how to handle Downie," said one Treasury agent who requested anonymity.

Both Siegel and Newcomb, through a Treasury Department spokesman, denied the allegations, but declined to comment.

Siegel "has a criminal motive to destroy relevant evidence in this case in order to hide his own criminal conduct, and that of other government employees [who] may also be criminally involved and have a motive to conduct in Operation Leatherneck reviewed, no one would listen to him," Downie's attorney said.

The first attempt to discredit Downie - by blowing his undercover identity - came about because of Downie's work on an earlier operation, Project Counterfeit, an investigation that reached from the United States into China and South Korea and dealt with bogus designer items. Siegel had described it in a nationally telecast news segment as a "flagship" operation of the U.S. Customs Service. Downie had provided the tips that led to the guilty pleas of five people. A sixth defendant was not prosecuted for a single count of selling phony Gucci handbags because there was mitigating evidence -

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#### **FULL AUTO**

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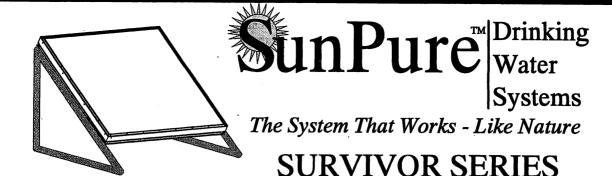
I have Sure-Fire flashlights permanently mounted on a significant number of my shoulder-fired combat weapons, including several Remington M870 shotguns modified by Scattergun Technologies, a Benelli M1 Super 90 Slug Gun and two MP5s.

There are either dedicated or universal housing systems to accommodate almost any shotgun, submachine gun or assault rifle that any law enforcement or military special operations unit might issue. Dedicated housings have the batteries and switches built in the weapon's forearm. The pressure switch is most often on the right side of the forearm. I prefer the newer option that also provides an off/on switch on the left side of the forearm toward the front. This permits law enforcement personnel to turn on the light and free the support hand to cuff or search a suspect while maintaining a firing grip with the other hand.

More and more special response teams are attaching muzzle-type sound suppressors to their MP5s. In order to clear a dedicated Sure-Fire unit, the A17 offset adapter should be installed between the housing and lamp module.

There are three lamp modules available for these housings. When compactness is required, such as on Scattergun Technologies' Entry Model with its 12.5-inch barrel, then the L30 lamp module should be selected as it uses a single 3volt battery with its 3-watt highpressure xenon lamp and has an overall length of 1.82 inches measured from the face of the mating housing. The L36 lamp module has the same envelope as the L30, but it has the light output of the L60 lamp module which has exceptional power and exceeds the output of most large 5-cell flashlights. You can also install an even more powerful P90 lamp assembly into the L60 module, with the addition of an A12 adapter for the extra battery required.

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## The Base Camp -

The SunPure Base Camp is designed for semi-permanent installations. It has a sturdy aluminum frame, tempered-glass solar glazing and comes with its own stand. Each panel comes with two collapsible fresh-water jugs. Approximate weight: 51 lbs. Dimensions: 48" x 48" x 4" Order Base Camp Model #SPF-C48.

### The Safari -

The SunPure Safari is a ruggedized version of the Base Camp to be used as a temporary camp model. The panel cover folds out to become the unit's stand. Impact-resistant acrylic glazing is used for safety and durability. Approximate weight: 44 lbs. Dimensions: 48" x 48" x 5" Order Safari Model #SPC-C48.

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#### SHERIFF MACK

#### Continued from page 43

risy of the so-called assault rifle ban. "I would also reiterate that there isn't a citizen in this country that should turn his or her safety over to the government and there isn't a citizen in this country that should give their weapons of war to the government."

Mack is quick to add that he isn't trying to pick a fight with the federal government, but do what he thinks is right, based on his oath of office, and compel the feds to follow their own oaths to protect and defend the Constitution. All law enforcement officers would do well to heed the advice offered by this humble sheriff in the book's afterword: "No police officer, soldier, or any other government official should in any manner comply with an order that is unlawful or attempt to enforce a mandate that is unconstitutional," Mack says.

"Theophilus Parsons, a founding father and former chief justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, wrote: 'The people themselves have it in their power effectually to resist usurpation without being driven to an appeal for arms. An act of usurpation is not obligatory; it is not law and any man may be justified in his resistance.' Any citizen has the right to resist an unlawful arrest, and no peace officer has a duty to make one. ..."

"Police have a difficult and thankless job," the book concludes. "They put their lives on the line every day in a world affected by drugs and violence and social decay. May each of us in this most noble profession, as we pursue the guilty among us, never be guilty ourselves of the greater crime: violating our oath in God's name to defend the constitutional rights of the people we work for."

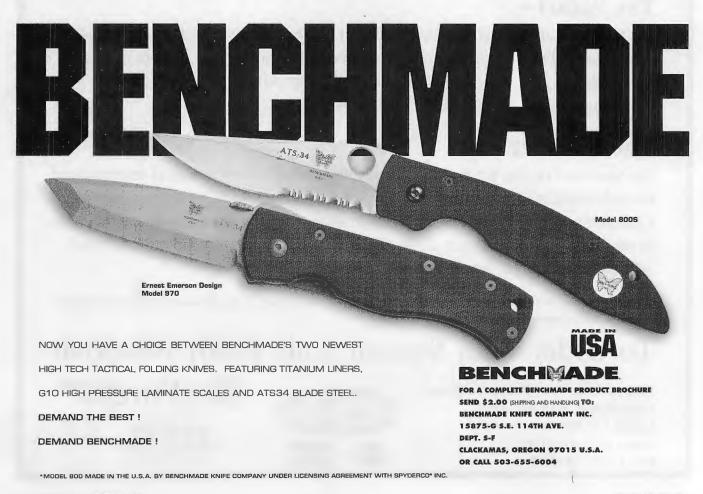
Former SOF staffer James L. Pate is a frequent contributor on governmental misconduct and constitutional issues. Copies of Sheriff Richard I. Mack's book, From My Cold Dead Fingers, are available from Rawhide Western Publishing (Dept. SOF, P.O. Box 327, Safford, AZ 85548; phone: 800-428-5956).

#### U.N. INVADES ARIZONA

#### Continued from page 49

make about as much sense as Hillary's health plan.

Since most tales have a starting point, it was time to seek out this one. Beginning in town I talked to the local police chief, deputies from Maricopa and Yavapai counties, newsies, and local patriots. Bottom line? Nope, no invaders. Just a few German air force and civilian personnel camping in the desert. All nonsomnambulent locals were satisfied that about 18-20 Germans, some mili-



tary, most civilians, were simply having a go at desert survival training/ camping out. No evil plot, no invasion. Everyone, that is, but some of the patriots. They knew better; for them we were now in the cover-up phase, in the throes of one giant conspiracy to obfuscate the truth of the invasion/recon-in-force.

They weren't making much sense, so I decided the logical thing would be to now interview the invaders: find the secret German headquarters and infiltrate it. But where to start? Sources at Luke AFB told me that they were located at the Air Park in Goodyear, Arizona. So off I went. Well, Tecintel teaches you to never overlook the obvious, so I popped open the phone book and there they were: Damn clever, these U.N. invaders, hiding under our very noses! I followed the road signs to the 3rd German Air Force Training Squadron.

Once there I met Lieutenant Colonel Hubert Prinz, the squadron CO. I asked him if he would consent to an interview.

"Sure, why not?" Did he mind if I taped the interview? "No, not at all." Did he mind if I took photos inside the unit's buildings? "Not at all, I'll take you on a tour. You can see anything you want, photograph anything, no problem." During the course of the interview Prinz explained that they had been there since 1989, evaluating potential pilots for the German military, as well as for Lufthansa. During their eight-week course, students were evaluated as to whether or not they would qualify as future pilots, navigators, or just not cut it as aviators.

Regarding the incident in Wickenburg, the colonel explained that there were a total of 19 personnel involved, including 13 middle-aged, out-of-shape civilian psychologists/ students, a flight surgeon (major), and an NCO medic, along with other squadron observers. The only firearms brought along were two pistols, to familiarize the civilians with firearms, and a Norinco AK that was fired around 0200 hours to provide stress to the trainees (and scare the living shit out of the civilians).

This arsenal belonged to the flight surgeon, who had cleverly infiltrated the NRA as well as the Arizona Rifle and Pistol Association. [Alas, when shown the membership cards, the patriots claimed they were forgeries]. The whole exercise was designed to give the psychologists some idea of what a pilot might go through if he ever went down in a desert environment: More realistic than planned, it even included a practical exercise on how to react when confronted by armed and hostile natives.

Local law enforcement — dupes that they are of the New World Order - early on checked citizen complaints and left satisfied that the guerrillas in their midst were indeed only German fly-boys and shrinks getting a taste of desert survival. But after the deputies left, the patriots moved in, brandishing guns, and told the Germans that if the cops wouldn't deal with the situation, they would.

At this point the not-so-happy campers decided it was time to get out of Dodge — the Wild West was getting just a little too wild. This should have been the end of it: a case of mistaken identity, overactive imaginations and out-of-control glands. But events and predispositions melded into a scenario with potential as a near-tragic incident.

When confronted in the desert,

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some of the Germans who had served with the U.N. peacekeeping force in Somalia (as did a hell of a lot of American troops), attempted to illustrate to the locals they were all on the same team by relating this fact. It was a poor choice of words, to say the least. The only words heard by the patriots were "U.N. peacekeepers!" and the tragicomic situation nearly lost its comedy.

For weeks afterward, The Wickenburg Sun carried letters to the editor crying conspiracy/cover-up, followed by other letters and editorials asking for a little common sense. Ain't much exciting happens in Wickenburg, and some locals were loath to let it die. In relaying the facts of my interview with Prinz to endemic patriots, I, too, was branded as being part of the conspiracy or at least taken in by the foreign devils.

It may seem to some that I've been harsh in my judgment of these selfanointed flag wavers. Maybe so. It's been alleged that one who doesn't blindly follow the pie-eyed piper into the valley of flame-throwing tanks, U.N. invaders and the like can't be a true patriot. Because I don't advocate grabbing a gun and blindly charging into the unknown, I must be part of the "conspiracy." After 21 years of active Army service I have great respect for those who love this country, but damned little for those who charge about blindly, fueled by fear and rumor.

Yes, foreign troops rotate through assignments on our soil and American troops are stationed on foreign soil ... and have been for the better part of my lifetime. But have you ever bothered to find out where and why? It makes you wonder how our troops may be treated in Germany when word of American "hospitality" gets back.

And, patriots, consider this: While you are looking under the bed for foreign invaders and conspirators, there are individuals and movements within your own country, even your own government, who are sneaking up from behind to steal your right to defend yourself, your home and country. Actions as took place near Wickenburg only give them credibility.

A former investigator, Richard Sherrow is a veteran of Army EOD and currently is a technical and legal consultant on explosives and arson. 🕱

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#### KOREA II

#### Continued from page 38

cent experience in South Korea told me, "The present thinking is backward."

The hard-liners and fruitcakes who talk war over North Korea's suspected bomb building program should chill out. There's more plutonium on sale at flea markets in Russia than in all of North Korea. A war here will have no winners. Hopefully, the talks will find a way to stop the unthinkable. All participants must ask what price must be paid to win the Korean argument. The leaders on both sides must think out the consequences.

Have no doubt that Pyongyang will be whipped if it invades again, but only after a bloodbath that will destroy the peninsula. China and Russia will not come to its rescue this time as they did in 1950. Time is on our side, and thank God, so is Luck. The Korean problem is a nasty hangover from the Cold War. It needs a double peace aspirin to cure. Here are a couple of suggestions: Both regular armies should pull back from the DMZ to south of Seoul, then reduce the size of their forces with ground observers verifying the drawdown and pullback. A pullback is the key to reducing tensions on both sides. The United States, which spends \$2.5 billion a year defending South Korea, should go home. One U.S. colonel said, "South Korea is a jobs program for the U.S. military and one of the last remaining hopes for the arms dealers. We should get out now."

On the other hand, a former top commander stationed there said, "I think forward deployment is the way to handle potential threats. Force protection ain't a strategy, it's a reaction."

Somewhere in between is the school solution. It seems to me if all the hawks chill out, the bamboo curtain will, in time, collapse and the two Koreas will unify without firing another shot.

Retired Col. David Hackworth, America's most-decorated living veteran and frequent contributor to SOF, recently returned from a month-long fact-finding tour of South Korea. R

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#### TIME BOMB

Continued from page 41

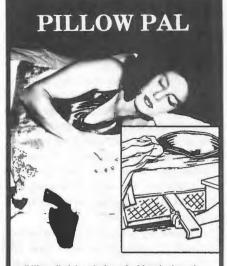
tion and schools are in Veracruz.

Power within the armed forces is highly centralized, the commander making all decisions at all levels. Officers are expected to follow orders explicitly and avoid individual initiative. Mexican army officers lack combat experience in all grades: Until Chiapas, there was no real opposition for 65 years. Although current troops are untested, history shows that when well trained and led, Mexican soldiers have performed well and bravely in battle.

The Mexican officer corps is thought to be too large. It does not rely heavily on its NCOs — Mexican officers do not delegate as much responsibility as do foreign counterparts. The various military academies have produced an excess of officers for the number of command slots available.

Mexico's military schools are effective in installing a perception that loyalty to country and service are paramount — that political ambitions are not compatible with a military career, an approach long fostered by the governing PRI. The current officer corps is much better educated, however, and is becoming more politically sophisticated. Due to increasing internal security and domestic difficulties, it is probable that military officers will grow toward a more participatory role in politics and the conduct of civilian government.

Cadets in military schools are constantly reminded of the role U.S. generals Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott played in Mexico in 1846, resulting in Mexico's loss of California, Texas and New Mexico. Memories of Gen. "Blackjack" Pershing's invasion of Mexico and the battle of Veracruz in 1914 are also strong. Consequently, today's military officers, as those in the past, have ambivalent feelings toward their country's relationship with the United States. Their attitude has recently been described as not entirely "antigringo," but still one of wariness about our government's intent. This attitude, along with Mexican presidential policies adverse to U.S. inter-



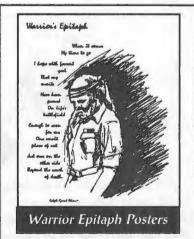
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the Editor and Publisher.

ests, has resulted in varying degrees of cooperation with the U.S. military in general, and has affected social and other contacts with our military attaches in Mexico.

A direct result of *nationalismo* has been the Mexican army's independence from U.S. arms makers and the development of its own small-arms industry and continual acquisition of European ordnance. However, the Mexican air force and navy, for less obvious but logical reasons, are now mainly equipped with U.S.-made aircraft and vessels.

Mexican armed forces number about 175,000 personnel. This includes about 60,000 conscripts who serve one year after being chosen by lottery, and train (mostly drill) four hours each Sunday. Regular armed forces comprise three-year volunteers who frequently reenlist. Reserves are estimated at roughly 300,000. A riflearmed rural defense militia, of uncertain numbers, may now be in the process of disbandment.

Generally, civil law enforcement at all levels is underpaid, untrained, politically controlled and unreliable. Consequently, the main burden for internal security falls on the army. Mexican military planners not only desire to increase personnel and equipment, but must consider the factors effecting overall strategy, performance and tactics.

Mexico is about three times the size of Texas. The terrain varies from coastal lowlands to central high plateaus. Two-thirds is mountainous, with jungles in the south and deserts in the north. There is a 2,000-mile border with the United States and a 750-mile frontier with Guatemala. There are 5,000 miles of coastline. The current Mexican military cannot expect to always maintain peace in a nation of this size and topography.

About 70% of Mexico's 90 million people live in urban areas stretched beyond their capacity to absorb people coming in from impoverished rural areas. There are 28 cities with populations of more than 200,000.

Two cities have a population of two million or more. The Federal District, including Mexico City, has an estimated population of 20 million. The size of Mexican armed forces in relation to overall population is very small compared to other nations.

There are 146,000 miles of roads (45% paved), 16,000 miles of railroads, approximately 100 airfields with scheduled flights, 5,000 miles of oil pipelines and more than 13,000 kilometers of gas lines. The potential for sabotage and disruption are enormous, including Mexico City's vulnerable water and power supply.

Indian populations in Yucatan, Tabasco, Chiapas, Oaxaca, Guerrero and Veracruz have historically harbored violent potential. Mexico's crucial petroleum and petrochemical operations are mostly in Veracruz and Tabasco. Any insurgency threatening Veracruz and Tabasco creates serious priority problems, given the army's limited resources and immediate reserves.

Although drug control is a principal mission, specified by the president as a threat to national security, the army cannot continue to concentrate on that and still devote sufficient resources to control civil unrest.

In a civil war, military control of Mexico City would be paramount and the principal responsibility of the army. It would not be able to protect the seat of government and infrastruc-



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ture, control the local population and concurrently conduct major operations elsewhere. A country-wide civil war would probably force garrisons in the 35 other zones to protect major urban and industrial centers in their areas of responsibility, leaving the rest of the country to dissident forces.

Mexico's current armed forces cannot adequately handle the magnitude of the problems they face. Personnel, training and logistics are all in too short supply. It would be prudent for the new president of Mexico and his ruling majority to make immediate, favorable decisions toward funding rapid expansion of the armed forces, to double or triple the present level, with a corresponding increase in modern arms. This would afford, time permitting, the country to continue to attempt a peaceful resolution of its many problems.

In a scenario of Mexican internal disaster such as civil war, the United States would face crucial decisions and be forced to take immediate action:

Our southern border would have to be sealed to exclude millions of refugees.

- Billions of dollars in American investment with financial repercussions at home, plus NAFTA itself, would be at risk.
- Tens of thousands of American residents in Mexico, plus tourists. would be in jeopardy.
- The vital U.S. national interest in Mexican oil fields and production facilities would be in jeopardy.
- There would be severe political repercussions in our country due to the large number of Mexican-American citizens and voters.

Mexico has had a bloody history of internal revolt. Hopefully, the current situation in Mexico can be resolved peacefully. If not, it might be necessary to deploy U.S. troops in Mexican oil fields and elsewhere. Let us hope that excessive national pride, plus memories of past gringo transgressions, do not cause Mexican government and military officials to forego requesting timely assistance should the need arise.

Author of a number of standard texts on military and security topics, Col. Rex Applegate lived in Mexico for 15 years, representing U.S. military and police equipment companies. 🛪

#### **SARAJEVO**

#### Continued from page 48

in the conglomerate of small houses and apartment blocks, almost a kilometer below us near the Verbanja Bridge. Here again every building had been code-named, but in this area, appropriately called the rat's nest, the opposing sides were only meters away. One building, christened "Butin" because of a gas explosion, was actually divided between the Serbs and Bosnians. I was later to visit the Verbanja Bridge observation post and get a firsthand view of the close-quarters fighting. But from up here it seemed far removed.

A tongue of flame suddenly ripped through the blackness. The Bosnians had set off a rocket. This was followed by three bright bursts and the dull explosion of grenades. After the immediate flames had died down I followed Lieutenant Racine, the squad leader at Sierra Echo, over to the thermique camera. This infra-red sighting device is usually linked to the Milan, and is used as a night op-

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Through the camera, explosions that had disappeared to the naked eye still glowed intensely red. A spotter had already recorded the point of impact. Another trooper who had been following a vehicle moving on the Serb side of the Transit had picked up on something else: Two people were moving behind the Serb building toward the front line. Even at 800 meters we could make out the profile well enough to have an idea of what kind of weapons they were carrying.

One obviously had an AK slung over his shoulder. The other was carrying a longer weapon. Was this a sniper team getting ready to set up for the morning? Of course we couldn't be sure. But they were logged in as such and their presence radioed to the spotters below. They would be followed, and whatever building they entered would be in somebody's sights at first light. This was the kind of information needed to give the teams below that few-second advantage over their adversaries.

Certain deserved criticism has been leveled at U.N. personnel in Sarajevo, but these French troops are professionals who take their jobs seriously and are doing their best to get a difficult job done. This is one case were U.N. intervention is actually having a positive effect on the lives of the people they are sent to help.

Photojournalist Richard Lucas has been reporting on the war in former Yugoslavia since the onset. This is his first story for SOF.

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#### LEATHERNECK II

Continued from page 59

Written more than a year after Downie resigned from Customs, the blackball memo violates a Customs regulation requiring that it be written immediately after any objectionable conduct occurs. Further, Siegel's memo is a lie. Downie had proven himself reliable over and over again, for the ATF, the Customs Service and, most recently, for the FBI. Indeed, almost all of the undercover cases that Downie worked did not require him to testify because the evidence was so solid that suspects pleaded guilty.

In a federal affidavit, Caliendo said Siegel's blackball memo is not true. And Ms. Marilyn Bobula, the assistant U.S. attorney familiar with Downie through the Project Counterfeit case, has made several public statements since Siegel's memo, attesting to Downie's reliability, professionalism and veracity.

Still, Siegel did not give up. The feds began a rumor campaign against Downie with the local police departments for which he sometimes worked, primarily in internal affairs and public corruption. This rumor campaign followed Downie to an undercover operation in Tennessee (see "Walking Tall in Tennessee," SOF Dec. '94). Another identity he worked under in Ohio - Mike Davis - was leaked to the Ohio news media. Once it was "inadvertently" left in a police report, and another time it was inexplicably inserted in a news release.

In December 1992, ATF began pressuring Downie for his home address. Under the circumstances, he was reluctant to give it out, fearful it would be given to someone who might try to harm his family. He told them that Schneider had approved his undercover address. Downie soon received a letter from a compliance inspector, who said she had filed to revoke his FFLs because they were not licensed to his real address.

A hearing was held before an ATF compliance judge on 8 September 1993 in suburban Cleveland. Schneider testified under oath that he had never given Downie permission to use an undercover address. Afterward, Downie's lawyer played a tape recording of the conversation in which Schneider did give approval. Yet Schneider was not charged with perjury and the revocation was upheld. This story is not over yet.

A former staffer and frequent watchdog contributor specializing in government corruption and malfeasance, James L. Pate has spent months researching the saga of Mickey Downie.



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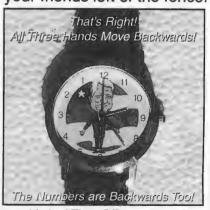
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Counter-Surveillance specialists has created a situation where "sweep' exceeding \$250 per hour are now considered reasonable and appropriate.

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In response to this ever-growing threat, a uniquely engineered feature of the CSD-18 now also detects infinity type devices

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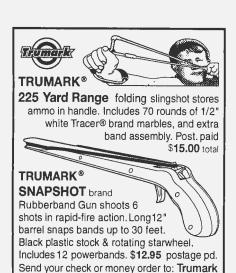


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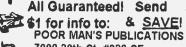
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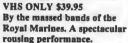


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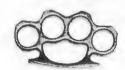
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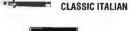
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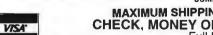


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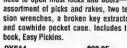
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